

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Harvey Milk Lives

The 12th Castro Street Fair began with the dedication of Harvey Milk Plaza in front of the Castro Street Muni Metro station. Banners bearing famous phrases from San Francisco's first gay Supervisor billowed in the breeze. Here friends and political associates of Harvey Milk pull the banners down, revealing his name in metal letters and a plaque honoring Milk. It was described as a reunion from the early days of gay liberation. Allen White reports on the ceremony and on the Fair that followed, page 17. Photos from the Fair on pages 16 and 18.

(Photos by: Rink)



The City's 'Big Money' Won't Help Fight AIDS

Circus Benefit Fiasco Underscores Problems Of Raising Private Money for AIDS Groups

by Brian Jones

The big top was a flop.

The May 30 "A Night at the Circus" benefit was to raise \$50,000 to \$65,000 for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, a group at the edge of fiscal chaos. But days before the tent was to rise across from Moscone Center, it appeared the event would lose money. A last-minute appeal pushed the circus over the top and it netted \$4,266—some of that still owed.

The repercussions from the circus fiasco have gone beyond the bottom line. Fallout from the fund-raiser has put some of the biggest names in the gay community at odds with each other with bitter recriminations.

More important—but less obvious—are deeper lessons pointed up by the fiasco. "A Night at the Circus" demonstrated the discouraging truth that it is hard to raise big money, privately, for AIDS anywhere—and almost impossible to do so here.

"Everything that could go wrong did go wrong," said fund-raising consultant Jim Foster, a political power-broker who serves on the city Health Commission and who organized the event. "It took two and a half months of back-breaking work and the amount of time certainly did not equal the result."

"I wish I had never heard of

WHAT WENT WRONG

Every element of the fund-raiser failed: support from gay groups, support from big corporate givers, help from volunteers, and publicity. In microcosm, the circus flop provides a revealing look into the problems which limit private fundraising to fight AIDS.

There was little cooperation from gay groups. Foster recruited Bob Ross, publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*, and Laurie McBride, president of the Golden Gate Business Association, to be co-chairs. The idea

was that Ross' and McBride's names and connections would build gay support for the event.

It didn't happen. A letter from Ross and McBride asking 225 gay groups in Northern California for help met with little response. Only six groups agreed to sell tickets; in all, only 29 responded.

"The results have been very disappointing," Foster wrote in a progress memo to the AIDS Foundation on May 16.

While gay organizations' support was poor, mainstream charity help was dismal. Foster

(Continued on page 21)

Reagan Says 'AIDS', Defends Budget

President Calls Health Problem 'Top Priority'; Supports Keeping AIDS Children Out of School

by George Mendenhall

Pres. Ronald Reagan has finally said "AIDS." In a press conference on Tuesday, Sept. 17, Reagan was asked by two reporters about the disease. He responded by defending his Administration's record on AIDS research spending. Calling the federal budget on AIDS a "vital contribution," Reagan repeated that AIDS is a "top priority with us."

When asked about school children with AIDS, the President said he sympathized with parents who refuse to send their children to school with a child who has the disease. Reagan claimed those fears were justified because medical scientists have not said, "This we know for a fact—that it is safe."

The President had never before spoken publicly on the AIDS crisis. He had never been asked any questions by the capitol press corps on the subject. The questions were asked by two of the White House press corps regulars who frequently are called upon by the President—Mike Putzel, of Associated Press, and Jim Hildreth, U.S. News and World Report.

SHABBY COVER

"His comments were ridiculous," was the response from Atty. John Wahl, who serves on the national steering committee of Mobilization Against AIDS. "We are five years into this epidemic and the President has finally said the word 'AIDS.' He talks about spending half a

(Continued on page 2)

More Charges Raised Against Drug Board

Second Resignation Renews Controversy; Allegations of Meddling in AIDS Research

by Charles Linebarger

Charging that the efforts of the county drug abuse advisory board were being thwarted by officials in the county drug bureau, Joan Nosse, vice-president of the board resigned last week. At the same time, it came to light that the resignation letter of the first official to resign from the drug bureau, Robert Tobin, on Aug. 21, complained of an alleged threat by county methadone provider, Ron Kletter, against AIDS research being done by the Youth Environmental Study (YES).

"I take this action," Nosse wrote to Sup. John Molinari in her letter of resignation, "because the processes by which the committee is supposed to execute its legislative mandate have been consistently undermined . . . I

feel these issues should be addressed by the board of supervisors before my replacement is appointed and faces the same situation." Molinari is president of the board of supervisors.

(Continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

The Castro Street Squeeze has caught many merchants in a bind between escalating rents and declining business. See page 3.

Gay Choruses from across the nation met in Washington, D.C. to begin planning for their national festival next July. Greg Vogel relates on page 14.

The Watergarden in San Jose found itself the victim of AIDS hysteria when maintenance workers refused to enter the building. Charlie Linebarger reports, page 19.

Yukio Mishima's life on film has some remarkable gaps, says Steve Warren on page 24.

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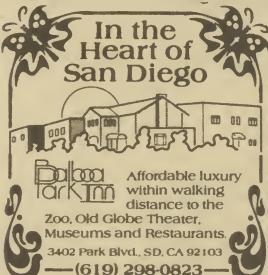
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By DR. RICK PETTIT
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Reagan

(Continued from page 1)

billion dollars over four years when the cost of running the entire government for one working hour of this year is over \$483 million. The government just admitted that it wasted \$1.8 billion alone on the useless Sgt. York anti-tank missile experiment," said Wahl.

"The truth is, there is no massive AIDS program," Wahl stated. "It is just a shabby cover for what is really a public relations effort. Reagan's Secretary of Health and Human Services, Margaret Heckler, recently announced that she took \$10 million from the American Indian Health Service and gave it to the government's AIDS program. That means Indians will now be deprived of vital health services. This is the kind of thing the Administration is doing rather than launching an all out program."

Reagan's implication that parents might do well by keeping their children out of school if there is a student with AIDS present, drew more anger from Wahl. "This says that the President is not opposed to quarantining people with AIDS and AIDS-Related Conditions (ARC)," said Wahl. "It also indicates that he would not be opposed to also quarantining people who have tested positive on the HTLV-3 antibody test."

Wahl said Reagan's response was not surprising. "Many of his political and religious supporters are now calling for a mandatory blood test of everyone in the country," he said. "Rev. Jerry Falwell, a strong friend of Reagan's, is speaking out for including the AIDS test in all physical examinations. It is frightening and we must continue to fight back the denial of civil liberties."



President Ronald Reagan

TEXT OF REAGAN REMARKS

Mike Putzel, *Associated Press*: Mr. President, the nation's best known AIDS scientist says the time has come now to boost existing research and to do what he called a "minor moon shot program" to attack this AIDS epidemic that has struck fear into the nation's health workers and school children. Would you support a massive government research program against AIDS like the one President Nixon launched against cancer?

President Reagan: I have been supporting it—for more than four years now. It has been one of the top priorities with us over the last four years and—including what we have in the budget for '86—it will amount to over a half a billion dollars that we have provided for research on AIDS in addition to what, I am sure, other medical groups are doing. We have \$100 million in the budget for this year and it

will be \$126 million for next year. So this is a top priority with us. Yes, there is no question about the seriousness of this and the need to find an answer.

Putzel: If I could follow up, sir. The scientist who talked about this, who works for the government at the National Cancer Institute, was referring to your program and the increases that you propose as being not nearly enough at this stage to really go forth and attack the problem.

Reagan: With our budgetary constraints and all, it seems like \$126 million dollars in a single year for research has got to be something of a vital contribution.

Jim Hildreth, *U.S. News*: Returning to something that Mike said. If you had younger children in school, would you send them to school with a child who has AIDS?

Reagan: I am glad that I am not faced with that problem today and I can well understand the plight of parents and the way they feel about it. I also have compassion—and I think we all do—for the child that has this and doesn't know and can't have it explained to him why he is suddenly an outcast and can no longer associate with his playmates.

On the other hand, I can understand the problem of the parents. It is true that some medical sources have said that this cannot be communicated in any way other than the ones that we already know and would not involve the child being in the school. And yet medicine has not come forth unequivocally and said 'This we know for a fact—that it is safe.' And until they do, we just have to do the best we can with this problem. I can understand both sides of it.

G. Mendenhall

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Charges

(Continued from page 1)

Nosse's resignation letter continues, "These problems are caused in my opinion, by the actions of the city drug program's administrator, (Nancy Presson) and by the inaction of her program chief (Wayne Clark) . . . The valiant efforts of the committee members, and its sole staff person, Robert Tobin, who has recently resigned for similar reasons, cannot succeed in the face of constant interference and opposition from those they are supposed to advise."

Kletter denied he ever interfered with or threatened AIDS research at YES. He said that in fact he was concerned that that project was established.

Nancy Presson said she felt Nosse had made a significant contribution while on the advisory committee. She would not comment on the charges in Nosse's resignation.

While Nosse refused to expand on her written statements, according to Robert Tobin's resignation letter a county methadone provider, Ron Kletter, had threatened ongoing AIDS research being done by YES.

Talking about patterns of mismanagement in the drug bureau, Robert Tobin wrote that the latest example was, "Dr. Kletter's implied threat to disrupt the implementation of a federally-funded AIDS and Needle Use research grant unless community input he perceived as critical of his program was silenced."

Tobin talked to the *Bay Area Reporter* about the alleged threat by Kletter to YES's AIDS research, "I was notified," Tobin said, "that one of the co-principal investigators at YES (John

Waters) had been excluded from a meeting at which the drug division director (Nancy Presson) and Dr. Kletter told John Neumeyer (the other co-principal investigator) that their AIDS study was in jeopardy. Kletter was uncomfortable with statements he perceived as criticisms of his program and feared that research data garnered from his program would somehow be used against him."

John Waters repeated Tobin's statement that he had been excluded from a meeting with Kletter, Nancy Presson and John Neumeyer. "I asked him (Kletter) why he didn't want me at the meeting," Waters recalled, "and he said the meeting was about the manipulation of data and he was uncomfortable about speaking to me at present."

"Neumeyer told me," Waters continued, "that Kletter told him that he had reservations about participating in the AIDS study unless Harvey (Feldman), executive director of YES and I agreed not to discuss him or his programs in the future."

"I think it's simply," Waters said, "that Nancy (Presson) was very offended by the B.A.R. articles and Kletter was too and they saw an opportunity to silence public criticism by striking a deal where co-operation in this AIDS project would be contingent on Feldman's and my agreement not to speak to members of the press about Ron Kletter's programs."

When asked whether Kletter had either implicitly or explicitly threatened the AIDS study by YES, Neumeyer said, "It's not quite true. He never said that to me. Ron's issue with me was that there were certain things that needed clearing up in terms of asking people (in his methadone program) questions. He may have had some concerns that we were doing an investigation of his

program under cover of the AIDS study."

Ron Kletter, director of a \$1.2 million county-funded methadone treatment program as well as being a member of the county drug advisory committee, responded by saying that he had never threatened the AIDS research being done by YES. According to Kletter, the purpose of the meeting with Presson and Neumeyer had been to ensure smooth implementation of the project.

Nancy Presson, when contacted for her response to Nosse's charges in her letter of resignation, said, "Well, I believe that Joan's not going to continue to work with the advisory committee. I felt that she contributed a great deal and I feel we need to move on." Presson refused to comment specifically on Nosse's allegation of "constant interference and opposition."

"I feel that she said what she felt was important," Presson said.

Jim Foster, a member of the Health Commission which is meeting later this week to discuss the county drug plan and the criticisms that have been made of it, also talked to the B.A.R.

"We want to look at the way drug money is dispensed in this city," Foster said. "There seem to be two major pivot points, alcohol and opium addiction, and somehow everything in between seems to get lost in the shuffle. We really need to look at how we can better allocate resources so we can deal with all our substance abuse problems."

18th Street Services will also be discussed at the Health Commission meeting, Foster said, "I'm very anxious to see that program go into effect," he added. "We're looking at a very urgent situation now."

C. Linebarger



Business was bad for records . . .

(Photo: Rink)

Castro St. Squeeze: Rent Up, Business Down

Rash of Closures Dims Great Gay Way;
Manhattanization, Epidemic of Fear Blamed

by Charles Linebarger

A slowdown in business, some sellouts and bankruptcies and sparse crowds at many of the bars are signs of hard times in the Castro. Observers point to rising rents and fear of AIDS as the culprits.

A walk down Castro points up the problems in the area. Leather Forever, on 17th Street just off Castro has filed for bankruptcy. Auctions, a small shop at 17th and Castro has gone out of business, the Asian-run grocery store at the corner of 18th and Castro shut down at the beginning of the month, and the Good Provider, near 19th Street, has recently sold its stock and locked its doors.

Rising rents have shut down many shops and the double whammy of high rents and loss of business has hurt others. An unnamed store clerk at Harmony and Lotus, the discount designer clothing shop which

Response Lukewarm To HPA-23 Offer

CORAL GABLES—Phoenix International Health Care Center offered the AIDS experimental drug, HPA-23, to this Florida community last week, but the response was only 10 phone calls. However, one company official hinted this was not because there weren't people who didn't show interest.

"Everyone who called was afraid to leave his telephone number and name," said Lucien de Cassan-Floyrac, president and chief operating officer of the Coral Gables company. "They wouldn't even leave a fictitious name. They were all afraid of being identified as HTLV-3 positive and feared the information might get back to insurance companies and employers."

HPA-23 is an experimental drug for AIDS patients which had been available before only in Paris.

Phoenix offered three treatment plans for those at risk for, already exposed to, or already harboring the AIDS virus. All three plans involved heavy doses of intravenous vitamins, nutritional supplements, cell therapy and ozone implants. Even Cassan-Floyrac admitted the cost of the plans, ranging from \$5-15,000 and involving trips to Haiti, may have scared off some potential patients.

"But they have to realize," said Cassan-Floyrac, "that their insurance will pay between \$10-12,000, so it's not that bad. Not when you realize that treatment for one AIDS patient can run up to \$150,000."

—The Weekly News of Miami

replaced Gramophone Records last year, said that the same signs of hard times are affecting other parts of the city as well.

"The same thing is happening on Haight Street too," our source said, "I don't think it's the AIDS thing. There's a lot of competition. It's the Manhattanization of San Francisco. That's my own opinion."

That high rents are closing businesses is common knowledge. This reporter talked to the owner of the mon-and-pop grocery store that recently closed at the intersection of 18th Street and Castro, and was told that it was simply due to doubled rent. Locations on Castro have become a more valuable commodity, and if Union Street is the sign of the future, only high ticket items in boutiques and franchise operations will be able to take the heat.

Rents have been rising for years. Randy Wallace, the co-owner of Gramophone Records on Polk Street talked about the reasons behind the closing of the Castro Gramophone last year.

"Our rent was going to triple," said Wallace. "He (the owner of the property) was doubling it for one year then tripling it the next. It was going to go from \$2,000 a month, to \$4,000, to \$6,000. We left during the \$4,000 (phase) because we weren't breaking even at the \$4,000 mark. Even



. . . and for leather and Levis, too.

(Photo: Rink)

though we did a good volume of business we couldn't make it. Only the boutiques and fast food shops can handle the rent. It's going like Union Street."

Attorney Duke Armstrong, who is representing Leather Forever, agreed that high rents had played a part in the specialty clothing store's demise. "Rents had gone up," Armstrong said.

Castro Street is in a double bind according to Laurie McBride, president of the Golden

Gate Business Association. "In some cases it's the rent," said McBride, "but there's also the second epidemic, the epidemic of fear [of AIDS]. What I see happening is people outside of the Castro are staying away . . . and yet rents are still reflecting the high density foot traffic of a year ago so the shopkeepers are working in a crisis situation."

Gay bars are probably at the epicenter of the "second epidemic, the epidemic of fear." Old

(Continued on next page)

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S.B. 1251 Passes; Sent to Governor

\$4.9 Million Appropriated for AIDS; Deukmejian Said to Support Bill

by Will Snyder

Senate Bill 1251, calling for \$4.96 million in AIDS research, went to Gov. George Deukmejian's desk Friday, Sept. 13, after passing both the California State Senate and Assembly by overwhelming margins. A spokesperson for Senate Pro Tem. President David Roberti (D-L.A.), the bill's co-sponsor, said Roberti is confident Deukmejian will sign the bill into law.

"We think the governor should sign the bill," said Stan Hadden, a Roberti spokesperson. "There have been lots of negotiations going on between us and the Departments of Finance and Health and the governor's office and we feel good."

The bill passed the Senate by a 38-0 vote after breezing through the Assembly, 70-3. The only Assemblymembers to vote against it were Don Sebastiani (R-Sonoma); William Baker (R-Walnut Creek); and Dennis Brown (R-Long Beach).

Sebastiani was the most vocal

of the three. He told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that he was fearful the money would be used to counsel gays about safe sex practices.

"He was expressing the same type of fear that some members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors went through," said Hadden. "Down there, some safe sex brochures were printed and some of those people thought this was bad because it seemed to advocate a lifestyle."

The bill would provide additional funding for clinical

research, home health care, cost of care study, an AIDS mental health program and different educational programs such as residential and outpatient detoxification.

Roberti's office said \$2.3 million is being provided for clinical research, with the emphasis on viral cultures, clinical drug trials and administrative and laboratory support services. Home health care should take up \$1 million and will highlight attendant care, hospice care and other direct services to patients during acute phases of their illness.

Other allotments include \$600,000 for an AIDS Mental Health program, \$800,000 for educational programs and \$200,000 for cost of care study.

The cost of care study was absolutely necessary, according to Roberti. "This study is necessary so that the state can plan for and provide the services and funding needed to meet this public health crisis," Roberti said. "The study will compare costs of inpatient care, outpatient care, physician services and community support services."

Deukmejian has 10 working days to act on the bill. ■

W. Snyder

Castro

(Continued from previous page)
stand-bys are suffering and there are rumors in the air of Chapter 11 bankruptcies.

"In a nutshell, business is way down," said an unnamed bartender at the Badlands. "I know for a fact that it has affected the South China (restaurant) next door. It's the ripple effect. People are not going out at night. If you're bartending, it's no longer better to have the night shift." To make his point, he added that some of the help at Badlands had recently been laid off.

Paul Russ of the Phoenix said, "Things are slowing down definitely, but not dying like on Folsom Street, I think it's AIDS. I don't see any other reason because the streets are real busy during the day. They just don't want to cruise. That's why we're busy, because we have dancing, people can come in and dance and not just to cruise."

Several different sources said

that business in the area's bars was down on an average of about one-third, though some bars are still doing well.

Kevin Sullivan, of the Mid-night Sun, has three years under his belt at the video bar and to him business has "been fine. We still have lines on the weekend to get in. I haven't noticed any change." But still there seems to be slackening in the happy hour crowds compared to two or three years ago.

Restaurants are also suffering from the epidemic of fear. Dan Clowry, who has worked as a waiter at the Village Deli Cafe for over seven years, said business has "slowed down compared to what it was and what it was expected to be. It fizzled out two and half years ago when AIDS started. Rents are another thing. We're doing OK but nothing like what we expected. We've lost a lot of customers."

John Musselman, a waiter at Without Reservations, said business had also slowed there in

the last few years. "I think it's AIDS," said Musselman. "Holidays and weekends used to be non-stop. It used to be that you had to shoot someone to get in the door, but not anymore. People are afraid to go out. But our local business hasn't left. The whole street is quieter than it was three to four years ago. That's obvious. It's less festive."

"There's no silver lining to an economic depression," McBride said. "I think we will lose more shops. But all of the elements for vitality in that area are still there. We need reasonable rents and time for the general population's attitude to heal. There's a tremendous creativity and sensibility around the Castro and I don't think gays will leave." ■

C. Linebarger

Public Forum On Antibody Testing

Should you be tested for the AIDS antibody? Find out at a free public forum on AIDS Antibody Testing at alternative test sites in San Francisco. The forum will be held on Tuesday evening, Sept. 24, at 8 p.m. at the Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St. at Sanchez.

General information about AIDS related issues or the antibody testing program can be obtained by contacting the AIDS Hotline at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 863-AIDS or 800-FOR-AIDS in Northern California. ■

Stonewall Endorses Schmitt

In an unusual upset, the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club endorsed Humanist candidate James Schmitt over Democratic incumbent Mary Callanan for the office of San Francisco City Treasurer at their general meeting Sept. 3.

Schmitt, a virtual unknown to club members prior to the meeting, won points primarily for his criticism of the policy of investing the majority of the city's \$1 billion in liquid assets in treasury bills, thereby putting these funds at the disposal of the Reagan administration. Schmitt vowed, if elected, to redistribute these funds in other "non-military" investments. Stonewall members felt that militarization of the economy has particularly negative ramifications for gay people. ■

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Billy Gaylord and Wilkes Bashford

(Photo: Rink)

Alliance Hails Gaylord, Raises War Chest

by Allen White

San Francisco interior decorator Billy Gaylord was honored last Friday evening by the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance. Almost 200 people paid \$150 to attend the black-tie event that neither Gaylord nor the guests will forget for a long, long time.

Following the unexpected welcome by a picket line, the guests chose to ignore what most perceived as a temporary inconvenience. Aboard the ship, the cocktail hour was extended from an hour to over an hour and a half. The extension bothered no one. The guests were determined to have fun.

People make a party and The Alliance dinner cruise was a gracious cross section of diversity. An early arriver was Gina Moscone, escorted by Tom Horn. At another end of the boat was San Francisco *Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen with Wilkes Bashford. Throughout the boat were members of city boards, commissions and other appointive positions. City Attorney George Agnost and City Treasurer Mary Callanan, the only two city officials running for office next year, were there. And television crews roamed the ship.

At 9:30, the boat departed the dock for the dinner cruise. Wilkes Bashford became the first to make a statement to the dinner guests. He praised Billy Gaylord for his sense of humor. As the skyline of San Francisco passed by, Bashford offered a toast to the honored guest.

Billy Gaylord then rose to acknowledge the audience. As a founding member of The Alliance, he said he was "delighted to be here." He then showed off the medal given him by the mayor. He said the last time he received such an award was for baton twirling in 1963. Later, asked if he still twirled, he said, "No longer in public."

Todd Dickinson described the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance as sort of a "gay Amway distributorship." He told how one year ago The Alliance had 80 people at their first dinner and this year they had virtually sold out with over 185 people paying \$150 each. The money raised will go to financially assist candidates for public office who are supportive of lesbian and gay rights. He also explained how the organization sponsors monthly breakfast meetings. The next meeting is in October with California Attorney General John Van De Kamp.

Don Disler, treasurer of the organization, thanked the crowd for giving him over \$25,000 to count and deposit in the bank. He then read a resolution to Billy Gaylord from the California State Assembly and Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. Jim Haas then made a presentation on

tion, he acknowledged the presence of Billy Gaylord's parents, Charles and Lucille. The prolonged and warm ovation certainly was a highlight of the night and the sense of pride from all concerned was evident.

Billy Gaylord was visibly moved by the affection being shown him by his friends. Later during the cruise, he discussed the significance of San Francisco's gay community. He encouraged gay activists to focus their efforts away from just the gay community.

"Many in the city see the Castro as an island and that shouldn't be," said Gaylord, "We are part of a much larger community. We must take an overview look at the city. The gay community must become involved in all areas." He gave examples such as the Mission Bay Project and the problems that face the Laguna Honda Home.

Billy Gaylord is a proud gay man who is concerned as much for the city in which he lives as he is for the future of the gay community which he sees as intertwined.

Throughout the evening there was entertainment by the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and an entertainment segment by Ruth Hastings & Company.

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance expects to net over \$15,000 when the bills are finally tallied. This money will then be devoted to elected candidates to public office who will visibly support the rights of gay men and lesbians. ■

Unions Rock The Boat

A dockside labor dispute almost sank last Friday night's Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance's dinner cruise honoring gay civic leader Billy Gaylord. Less than four hours before people were to depart on the yacht, *The City of San Francisco*, the Longshoremen's Union and the AFL-CIO Masters, Mates and Pilots Union announced an information picket line.

The primary target of the picket line was Mayor Dianne Feinstein. It was highly publicized that she would be present to honor a personal friend. Billy Gaylord, for his civic contributions to San Francisco. Feinstein presented the award to Gaylord on the street, avoiding crossing the union line.

The union then announced they had been successful and lifted their informational picket.

One of those who had waited for the picket to be lifted was Sup. Bill Maher. Maher was highly critical of the union's actions. "You don't hurt your friends and then expect them to give you support," he said.

Two days previous, U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson had hosted a party aboard the yacht for Vice-President George Bush. Bush and Wilson are Republicans; Feinstein is a Democrat.

Richard Estrada, regional director of the Inlandboatmen's Union, a division of the ILWU, said they were not aware of the Republican event.

Don Fuller, head of the local Masters, Mates & Pilots Union, said that Bush and Wilson were not picketed "because we'd expect them to cross the picket line. I would hope a Democratic mayor would not cross."

No indication was given to The Alliance that there would be a picket line until 4 p.m. the afternoon of the event. Those attending the event, which included several supervisors, were never informed of the problem in advance.

Richard Estrada said the group was not notified because their union was unaware, in spite of the publicity, of the gay organization's sponsorship of the event.

Estrada did say that the management of the yacht, Hornblower Yachts, knew the event would be picketed. He said that on Sept. 9, four days before the dinner, a telegram was sent to the ship's owners. He offered to supply *B.A.R.* with a copy. But Michael Watson, co-owner of the company, said they never received any notification there would be a picket line.

Although employees are not on strike, union leaders have been attempting to unionize the boat and to date have been unsuccessful. *The City of San Francisco*, has become an embarrassment to union officials because it is the only maritime employer on the waterfront that is not unionized.

A. White ■

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Bigotry on Parade

Is it great to be straight? We wouldn't know, though many of our best friends are heterosexual. Certainly, the horrors of wife-beating, of familial child abuse and incest—which account for most crimes against children—and the exodus of kids who flee home because of the cruelty and neglect there, do not recommend the heterosexual lifestyle.

The American Psychological Association does not consider heterosexuality to be a disease. However, looking at the wreckage which this lifestyle has strewn across the social landscape, one may wisely wonder if these people are as happy with their lifestyle as they claim to be. There is nothing gay about being straight.

Many of our gay readers and most of our straight ones will no doubt find the above sentiments to be obnoxious, unfair and just plain mean. We agree. We have aired these thoughts only to make a point.

The purpose of the Gay Liberation Movement has not been to ridicule or to condemn straight society. We would do so, were we to adopt the cruel and unfair tactics which so many straight people have used against us. For example, the fact that 9 out of every 10 cases of child molestation are heterosexual shows that straights are child molesters—doesn't it?

But we have not adopted the mean-spirited and unfair tactics of our oppressors. Instead, we have struggled positively to affirm Gay Pride: to celebrate who we are, to support each other, and to show a world which so often offers us hate that we can offer each other love.

The annual apex of our movement is the Gay Pride festival, celebrated nationally and internationally at June's end, and locally styled as Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day. Here, as in many places, the culmination of the festival is a parade. Ours is the world's largest, and the largest civic celebration of any type held annually in San Francisco. Many of the celebrants are straight, and we welcome them warmly.

Now come some local promoters who propose to poke fun at the Gay Pride parade—to poke fun at us. They call their planned June 15 march down Market Street "It's Great to Be Straight," but they have misnamed the affair. What they propose is not to celebrate the straight lifestyle. Rather, they seek to ridicule gay people.

Its plans make clear that this event will make fun of us and try to belittle our oppression; an Anita Bryant look-alike contest tops the bill. We suggest the promoters get honest and invite Dan White as grand marshall. White can shoot at pro-gay supervisors with a toy gun; hilarious! If anybody proves that it's great to be straight, it's Dan White.

We anticipate that the promoters will protest. It is all in fun, they will say. Bullshit. One of the devious tactics in the arsenal of weapons used to oppress gay people is to deny that cruelty is in fact taking place. But we have been here before, and we know anti-gay bigotry when we see it. We see it now.

There is an inextricable link between reducing a people to the object of scorn, and promoting hatred and violence against that people. Fag-bashers ridicule their victims before assaulting them—as if giving themselves permission.

The promoters of Bigotry on Parade propose to elevate scorn for gay people to the level of civic celebration. Does San Francisco really have a place in its heart for such meanness?

Brian Jones

B.A.R.

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A Positive Article

★ I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for reprinting the San Diego Gayzette article on Louie Nassaney in your Sept. 5 issue, and especially for shading it so that the article would stand out.

With so many articles these days about the myriad negative aspects of this disease, it was wonderfully refreshing to see one that reinforces a positive development in someone's life. Many thanks to you and especially to Mr. Nassaney for the courage to come forward and tell others of his success and good fortune.

We live in a time where due to fear and sensationalism AIDS has grown far beyond a disease. As serious and devastating as it is, AIDS for many people has now become a monster far more debilitating than any other life-threatening situation. For thanks to the constant reminders we receive in our daily lives through the media, friends, and acquaintances, many people now see AIDS as an unquestioned death sentence, and this is truly the most terrible effect of this disease.

For now when diagnosed, many people give up the one thing stronger than any medicine or treatment currently available — namely the hope, the will and determination to fight, to take that diagnosis as a signal to see their life as a precious gift, and one not to be given up lightly.

It is for that reason that I applaud Mr. Nassaney and encourage all those people with AIDS who are surviving to come out of the closet to show people that diagnosis does not mean that your life is over. There may be only a few, at first, but every Bobby Reynolds and Louie Nassaney that comes forth will help show a frightened community that AIDS is not an automatic death sentence. That there is hope, and life, after AIDS.

Tom Bond
Berkeley

Scapgoating

★ It is encouraging to know of the State Division of Labor Standard's recent ruling that the S.F. General Hospital authorities acted properly with regards to the actions taken on the four nurses who used "extreme" precautions while caring for people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. There are, however, several points I found particularly distressing about these nurses' complaints regarding infection control policy of AIDS and ARC patients:

- Their complaints ignored all evidence that AIDS is not casually spread.
- Their actions adversely affect AIDS and ARC patients by causing them further, and needless, isolation.
- Their uninformed opinions perpetuate fear, ignorance, and homophobia.
- Their attitude is an embarrassment to the nursing profession.
- They seem to have missed the point about "caring" for people who are ill.

There are no documented cases of health care workers who have contracted the disease by caring for a person with AIDS or ARC. The infection control guidelines in use at S.F. General Hospital are similar to those in use at hospitals all over the Bay Area and around the country, for patients with AIDS. These four nurses' reactions, in spite of all documentation to the contrary, is culpable when, in a professional role, one is looked to as an example and resource.

The argument used by these nurses before OSHA attempted to exploit the possibility that AIDS patients were engaging in sex at the hospital, and that as a consequence these nurses might contract the disease by contact with body fluids from these patients. Closer examination revealed that the memo referring to one such incident involved a heterosexual, non-AIDS patient.

Thank You, Friends

★ I think that the letter, which appears below, by a man with AIDS, is so beautifully written that it should be shared with your readers:

Dear Friends:

I'm not very good with words, but I feel I must thank all of you for caring when it seemed I had no one. I've always fought all my problems alone. I don't know if I thought it weakness to allow others to help, maybe?

I do know one thing now, this disease has taught me to be a more complete human being. I now feel better about myself, as I can now share my heart with others, and am receptive of the same. I've stopped being lonely, knowing that you people care so unselfishly, and freely. Best of all, you make me feel no guilt, or like I'm "charity." For that you all have my love.

These past few months, I felt sorry for myself for never getting close enough to anyone, and allow myself a lover. I did not feel that I was good enough, and I was scared that they would feel the same way. I no longer feel that way; this community, and all the AIDS organizations are my lovers. Thank you most of all for that. The caring you share with me makes living like Christmas every day.

Sincerely,
Ron

Alan Selby
San Francisco AIDS Fund

Letter Policy

★ The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

LETTERS

On Sarria and Sexism

★ On Friday, Sept. 6, we attended a meeting of the Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties to hear Jose Sarria speak on "Sexual Liberation in San Francisco from the '40s to '80s (as advertised in the *B.A.R.*). We had heard that Sarria was an interesting speaker and knew a lot about gay history in San Francisco.

Soon after Sarria began speaking, we realized that he has very misogynist and sexist feelings about women. He first insulted us by saying that the reason the ERA hasn't passed yet is because the leaders of the women's movement weren't willing to "kiss ass" in order to get the support of the men in Congress. He said the leaders of the women's movement were too aggressive and "butch," which turned off these Congressmen.

He then went on to say that he didn't see why women had to identify themselves as lesbians. He said, "Lesbian sounds like a disease!" At this point we were so angry and insulted that we walked out.

How dare this man whose concept of feminism is a drag queen with heels and a bra, tell us why the ERA hasn't passed? What has he done to insure its passage? just because he chooses to kiss men's asses doesn't mean women would stoop to his tactics to get what we want. Kissing ass represents tacit approval of centuries of male oppression.

And don't we hear often enough from the straight world that "homosexuality" and "lesbianism" sound like diseases without hearing it from a faggot? If lesbianism is a disease, we're certainly glad only women can catch it.

We want to warn other lesbians and enlightened gay men in the Bay Area not to waste their time listening to Sarria speak unless they want to be insulted and angered. This man does not speak for lesbians and is concerned only with promoting his own sexist, misogynist views about homosexuality, a view which discounts, denies, and degrades lesbians.

Diane Johnson
Susan Jay
San Francisco

Gay American Indians

★ As a citizen, I personally object to the recent action taken by Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services, in transferring \$10 million in funds from Indian Health Services to AIDS research.

As a gay Indian, I am in total support of AIDS research, better health care for AIDS patients, and an eventual cure for AIDS, which is, in Ms. Heckler's words, the "nation's number one priority."

However, many American Indian health care programs are already facing a 40 percent reduction by the present administration. The veto in 1984 by President Reagan of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act will result in the closure of 39 urban Indian health clinics.

I believe that Ms. Heckler's actions continue the unfortunate historical tradition of denying American Indians their basic human rights.

Randy Burns
San Francisco

Gays in South Africa

★ Thank you for picking up on the *Gay Times of London* piece regarding the arrest of South African gay activist Tseko Simon Nokoli. The Pretoria government's repressive action should surprise no one, but as a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Black and White Men Together, I find it particularly interesting that in the midst of all of South Africa's turmoil, the first openly gay person to be arrested (at least to my knowledge) was a black man. His offense was arranging meetings in Soweto's gay bars between black gays and the predominantly white Gay Association of South Africa.

While I am not anxious to see others arrested, I cannot help but wonder how he could be the only person charged with the heinous offense of talking to members of a different race. But then again, I guess this mystery can only be understood by the Reagan White House, conspiracy-theory Republicans and other apologists for racism.

By the way, I hope the *Bay Area Reporter* will expand its coverage of gay events occurring outside the Bay Area. San Francisco may be the greatest place to be gay, but it is still helpful to know what's happening in the rest of the world. Thanks again.

Tom Horan
San Francisco

Dignity and the Archbishop

★ Dignity's criticism of John R. Quinn, the Archbishop of San Francisco, because of his up-to-now faint pastoral response to his gay brothers and sisters is partially misdirected.

The criticism fails to consider the organizational structure of the Roman Catholic Church. Unlike the two other sacramental and liturgical churches within Western Christianity, the Anglican Communion and Lutheranism, Roman Catholicism is a tightly centralized religious community which is both administratively and theologically dominated by the Bishop of Rome.

This official "Papal Catholicism" is theoretically

summarized thusly: The Pope speaks, the church obeys. For perhaps a majority of Roman Catholic lay persons in the local churches of North America and Western Europe, this "Papal Catholicism" has been replaced by an "Unofficial Catholicism" which may be defined thusly: The Pope speaks, few folks listen.

Tragically, however, few Roman Catholic bishops publicly acknowledge that Unofficial Catholicism has largely replaced Papal Catholicism on matters of human sexuality in the minds of the laity.

Pope John Paul II is a throwback to the autocratic Bishops of Rome before the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). In his world travels he has verbally demonstrated again and again that his only understanding of sexual love is couched within a sacramentally valid marriage, and this sexual intercourse must be without any physical or chemical barriers to prevent conception. Effectively, he equates sexual love with procreation.

The Bishop of Rome has a totally closed mind on all contemporary aspects of human sexuality: birth control, divorce, divorce and remarriage, premarital or post marital heterosexual love and homosexual love.

This outdated theology of sexuality is rooted in the Church's traditional Aristotelian philosophy of the natural law, which is still blindly accepted by clerical and lay theologically conservative Roman Catholics.

Consequently, Archbishop Quinn and most of his fellow Roman Catholic bishops in the United States are theologically placed in a bind. They are frightened to disagree publicly with "Papal Catholicism." Why? They fear removal from office, public censorship, or a private investigation of their orthodoxy by a papally appointed visiting bishop. Ambitious priests do not want to jeopardize their careers.

The bishops at Seattle and Richmond are two American bishops who showed sympathy for gay persons and who then were investigated by visiting bishops.

None of the above excuses Archbishop Quinn's failure to see openly the face of Christ in the face of each and every gay man and lesbian woman, but it probably explains his unwillingness to follow the courageous compassionate love which Bishop William E. Swing of the Diocese of California has shown for gay persons.

Gay liberation will be supported officially by the Roman Catholic Church only when Unofficial Catholicism has supplanted Papal Catholicism. That day is on the horizon, but unfortunately for the bishops, it is still decades away.

Dignity, however, is doing its part to accelerate that day's arrival.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro, CA

Confidentiality
This letter was sent to Assemblyman Art Agnos:

★ Dear Mr. Agnos:

The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties views with great alarm the attempt to exempt such businesses as insurance companies from restrictions involving tests for the AIDS antibody. Rights of privacy of individuals must not be made subordinate to expedience of corporations.

Further, we would urge careful monitoring of discriminatory practices by insurance companies to single out gay men as "high risk" groups. Such actions are clearly not in harmony with the Unruh law against such discrimination.

It is imperative that the rights of individual privacy not be overlooked in the efforts to deal with the medical issues involving AIDS. Confidentiality must be retained if medical programs are to be seen as credible by possible "high risk" groups.

We are forwarding copies of this letter to local gay political organizations, gay press, and civil rights groups and asking their support in efforts to retain present guidelines with respect to confidentiality and testing for the antibody or other related tests involving AIDS.

We appreciate your work in this area and look forward to working with you to the extent we may be of assistance.

Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties
Randy Stallings, Chair
Jerry Jansen, Secretary
Tim Brace, Issues Chair
Steven Cain, Treasurer

Take a Tip: Stay Home

★ I'm a bartender and resent Jack Abraham's letter, (9/5).

I can see not tipping ice-cream attendants and such, but I work hard for my customers. Keeping a smile on my face and catering to everyone, whether they are nice to me or not, is not exactly easy. This Jack is probably the kind that wants everything *right now*.

Well, I hope he never comes in my bar and doesn't tip me, because when he wants service again, he can whistle Dixie.

If I should get to him, he will see a watery drink that I will pour in front of him to see. You get what you pay for and if you can't afford to tip, do us all a favor and stay home. No one wants to socialize with a cheapskate.

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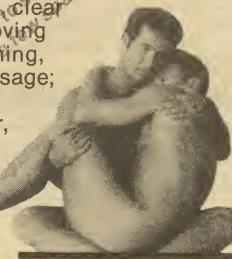
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ON THE OFF BEAT

Oregon's Cascade AIDS Project



MIKE HIPPLER

AIDS and the agencies concerned with their interests must therefore look elsewhere for support.

Many find that support within Portland's gay community itself. Unfortunately, says McDonald, there are three categories of gay people in Portland these days—people who are aware of the crisis and are actually doing something about it, people who are anxious but who don't know what to do, and people who still have their heads in the sand. Most people still fall into the last two categories.

"Most gay men in Oregon," states McDonald, "still feel that they're living in Ecotopia and that this disease isn't going to reach into their community when, in fact, it already has at an alarming rate. On the other hand, there are some very bright, committed people who are creating an organizational structure to deal effectively with AIDS as it does develop in Oregon."

"One of the great advantages we have," continues McDonald, "is that we are able to learn from the example of cities like San Francisco and New York, who were unable to deal with this crisis until it had overwhelmed them. Unfortunately, it takes the massive numbers of larger cities before government and individuals respond effectively."

McDonald is hopeful that these agencies and individuals will respond before that point is reached, and he, like his volunteers, works tirelessly toward that end.

Although his job never allows him to escape the AIDS crisis, that job is not a burden, McDonald claims. Since taking over as head of CAP he has come to know all 34 persons with AIDS in Portland. Although many of these people place extraordinary demands on him, many give him a great deal in return.

"True, it can get overwhelming, but I get a lot of support from community members who are helping to deal with this crisis," says McDonald. "It's definitely given me a different perspective on life—a more realistic one, I think."

Gay Groups Face Fed \$\$\$ Freeze

PHILADELPHIA—New federal regulations concerned with the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) fund may freeze gay and lesbian groups out of grant money. According to local reports, groups such as the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force (PLGTF) and the Philadelphia AIDS Task Force (PATF) may lose funds they have received in the past.

The impetus for this possibility started back in 1983 when President Reagan ordered CFC fund restrictions. Reagan said funds should go to "voluntary, charitable health and welfare agencies that provide or support direct health and welfare services to individuals or their families." Services must consist of "care, research or education in the field of human health or social adjustment or rehabilitation; relief of victims of natural disasters and other emergencies; or assistance to those who are impoverished."

Reagan made it clear that he was cutting out agencies that "seek to influence the outcomes of elections or the determination of public policy through political activity or advocacy, lobbying or litigation on behalf of parties other than themselves."

Reagan received support from the Supreme Court in 1985 on this issue. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, a Reagan appointee, led a 4-3 Court vote for the President and said the government does not "violate the First Amendment when it limits participation in the CFC in order to minimize disruption to the Federal workplace, to ensure the success of the fund-raising effort, or to avoid the appearance of political favoritism without regard to the viewpoint of the excluded group."

The PLGTF received \$1,500 from the CFC in 1984 and \$1,200 from the Federal organization in 1985. PLGTF Director Rita Adessa said, "It's obvious that the U.S. Supreme Court is executing the Reagan Administration's policy of excluding any human rights organization from access to funding."

An attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) said the long-time civil rights group has filed a first round of discovery papers in U.S. District Court in New York.

—Philadelphia Gay News

POLITICS AND POKER

Harvey Would Have Loved It



WAYNE FRIDAY

Sunday's dedication of Harvey Milk Plaza at Castro and Market Streets was vintage Milk. The slain Supervisor's closest friends brought together again, yards of banner depicting his San Francisco activism, Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorus singing a song no one really understood, one of the sunniest days of the year, the street itself packed with beautiful people, and a Muni station all his own—Harvey would have loved it.

The official dedication of the Milk Plaza was a long time coming, but what better a tribute to Harvey than Castro Street—perfect! Harvey, of course, would have preferred Civic Center to have been named for him, but what the hell. Thanks again to Scott Smith, Jim Rivaldo, Walter Caplan, Frank Robinson and the others who persisted and made this memorial possible.

Friends of Sup. Bill Maher will kick off his '86 re-election campaign by holding a \$200 per person fundraiser to celebrate his 38th birthday tonight (Sept. 19) at the Hyatt Regency (5 p.m., 929-1417 for info).

Small wonder the Reagan Administration has been running away from Jerry Falwell (with the exception, that is, of George Bush). A Harris poll completed last week found that 76 percent of those asked felt the Moral Majority leader was wrong in calling Bishop Tutu a "phoney" with 67 percent of those people saying Falwell was mistaken to urge Americans to "reinvest" in South Africa.

Former First Lady Rosalyn Carter speaks to a Commonwealth Club luncheon in the city next Friday (six and info by calling 362-4903).

One of New York City's best known gay activists, David Rothenberg, lost his bid last week to unseat Councilwoman Carol Greitzer in that city's Greenwich Village district, despite Rothenberg's spending more than \$200,000, the most of any council candidate . . . Incidentally, campaigns in the Big Apple are put on a big (and expensive) way. Despite the fact that he was the overwhelming favorite from the beginning, Mayor Ed Koch spent \$5.5 million in last week's Democratic primary, winning easily against two well-financed opponents.

Bruce Decker, the San Francisco Republican who is one of the state's best-known GOP gay activists, and reportedly a favorite of George Deukmejian, got in a battle with Pete Schabarum, president of the GOP controlled Los Angeles Board of Supervisors last week. The resulting political fall-out could jeopardize what progress gays have made with the Republican party in that county.

Decker, often criticized by gays for being too cozy with con-



Bruce Decker
(Photo: Rink)

servative Republicans (he likes to refer to himself as "Deukmejian's House Fairy") turned on Republican Schabarum when he attacked an AIDS prevention pamphlet called *Mother's Handy Sex Guide* that supposedly used street language to make gay men aware of the varieties of sexual activity that they could engage in without spreading the disease.

Sup. Schabarum, who controls the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, and his cronies attacked the pamphlet (which was not printed at taxpayer expense), and a second booklet that was aimed at intravenous drug users that sought to tell them how to reduce the risk of contracting AIDS. Republican Schabarum and his colleagues, of course, saw that pamphlet to be some kind of instruction in how to shoot up. After attacking *Mother's Handy Sex Guide*, he managed to win backing from his fellow supervisors for a review of \$1 million in county contracts with gay groups, clearly placing the contracts in jeopardy.

Decker, long a loyal Republican, clearly would have preferred to avoid a clash with the powerful Schabarum, said, "The County of Los Angeles has the second largest AIDS population in the state. It borders on criminal neglect for the board of supervisors and the county Department of Health Services not to have initiated educational programs. L.A., with 1,129 cases reported by Aug. 31, ranks behind only New York City and San Francisco in known cases of AIDS, with 584 deaths in Los Angeles County since 1981.

Of the 5-member L.A. Board of Supervisors, only Sup. Ed Edelman, who represents the Hollywood area, has a solid record of supporting gay issues. Future funding by the supervisors is questionable. Decker, however, by taking up the fight against the conservative board, has won new friends in the gay political arena and seems to show that he is not afraid of taking on members of his own party regarding the AIDS epidemic.

To back up Bruce Decker's position that the L.A. County Board of Supervi-

sors was doing less than they could to help fight this deadly disease, was an editorial appearing in this week's *L.A. Times* attacking that county's "sleepy supervisors." The *Times* editorial on Monday attacked Sup. Pete Schabarum and his colleagues saying that "twice in recent weeks a majority of the supervisors have shown themselves to be particularly unaware of what's going on with respect to AIDS and the need for strong action against it. They have focused on two pamphlets aimed at high-risk communities, and have spent more time and energy worrying about the propriety of what's in the pamphlets than about the disease itself."

La Cage aux Folles opened last week in Washington, D.C., in front of such bigwigs as GOP Chairperson Frank Fahrenkopf (who said he "loved it" and called it a "tremendously gay evening"). Conservative columnist Robert Novak (Evans and Novak) said: "I was shocked, I'm just glad they didn't kiss." Charles Z. Wick, head of the U.S. Information Agency, approved of it, commenting that it was "charming and inspiring; it transcended anything anyone could have an objection to." A show next week will benefit AIDS research.

Richie Ross, who manages assembly campaigns for Democrats through his Ross Communications, has been named chief of staff for Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. And at any political cocktail party in the city, you will still hear talk about political hotshot Clint Reilly's attack on Willie Brown in the current *San Francisco Focus* magazine. This feud could get worse before it gets better and most are saying they wouldn't bet against Willie on this one.

Nearly 3,000 expected at tonight's big AIDS Project/L.A. Commitment to Life Dinner in Los Angeles, hundreds more on a waiting list for dinner. The event is hosted by Elizabeth Taylor, who says that raising money to fight AIDS is now her "major project." It is expected to raise over \$1 million dollars.

A huge volunteer campaign is being organized around the upcoming NBC-TV movie, *Early Frost*, a story of a young lawyer who contracts AIDS. The date of the telecast is tentatively set for Nov. 18. John Baran, who spearheaded the efforts around *The Day After*, plans fundraising viewings in 100 cities on that night. The movie stars Aidan Quinn, Gena Rowlands, and Ben Gazzara.

A personal note: for the past couple of years I have been receiving anonymous mail. Though I have never learned who the reader is, I just want him/her to know the mail is appreciated and wish they would identify themselves. Thanks very much.

Temple to Students 'Do It Yourself'

PHILADELPHIA—Temple University has told its students they must set up their own interviews with the United States Armed Services. This action came after the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations ruled Temple could not set up the interviews since the interviews technically aided the armed forces. The latter has been

determined as discriminating against gays and lesbians.

A lawsuit had been brought against Temple in 1982. At that time, law student Pat Malley received a communiqué from the university explaining that representatives from the armed forces would be on campus to interview candidates.

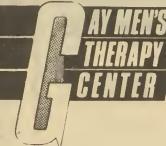
Temple Assistant Dean Marjorie Broderick feels the university is not violating any new local ordinance even though it is sup-

plying dates students may meet with the military. "It doesn't worry me in the slightest," said Broderick. "We're doing nothing to assist" the recruiters.

Malley said it is "debatable whether this is a violation of the order. The Law School is only supplying lists and dates."

She did add, however, that she feels this might be a violation of the spirit of the Human Relations Commission's ruling.

—Au Courant of Philadelphia



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BAY AREA REPORTER SEPTEMBER 19, 1985 PAGE 9

Gays May Be the Issue In 1986 Elections

by Vic Basile

Few people gave much thought to anorexia nervosa until it was revealed that Karen Carpenter died because of it. Researchers now believe that President Reagan's bout with colon cancer will result in thousands of lives being saved. Betty Ford's mastectomy, Rita Hayworth's Alzheimer's disease — all have served to focus national attention on previously ignored or misunderstood diseases.

Which brings us to Rock Hudson's AIDS. In perhaps the most vivid illustration so far, where America's attention seems only to be captured by tabloid revelations, the country finally seems to have acknowledged and ac-

cepted AIDS for what it is — an epidemic of catastrophic proportions.

It's a case of medical rock and roll. To get AIDS on the public's agenda — to finally get the ball rolling — it took a Rock Hudson. Never mind the roughly 12,000 other cases that preceded his. But instead of bemoaning human nature, we should address the consequences of this sudden national focus on what is still a largely unknown and misunderstood problem. Because as critical as this focus is, it brings with it both positive and negative fallout.

For some, the reaction to Rock

Hudson's tragedy will lead them to call for increased funding for AIDS. For others, it will lead them to call for the incarceration of all gays. For most, reaction will fall somewhere between the two extremes and, therein, lies the threat to this country's gay and lesbian community.

We recently received a news release from a congressional candidate named Mary Jane Rachner. She was quoted as saying, "To stop AIDS, spend not one cent for research. There's no way to make anal intercourse a healthy habit. If we had in America a cult of people who enjoyed eating each other's feces, would we assign \$126.7 million

for research on how to make this habit safe and healthy? Homosexuals and bisexuals want to crow about how we're all in this together. We must stop them even if it means ordering sanctions for us."

On a recent broadcast of a network news program, columnist George Will questioned the wisdom of spending millions of dollars on AIDS research and treatment, when (to paraphrase), it's a disease brought about through behavior. He suggested that, since we know how AIDS is spread, why not just educate the public, and let them take their own chances? George Will is not Mary Jane Rachner. He is influential and many people follow his lead.

These are the same people who are inclined to outlaw homosexual activity, because they think that will stop the spread of this disease. They are ready to support drastic action if it means keeping this "gay plague" confined only to gays. They don't want to see the government spend huge sums of money to make gay sex safe again.

The stigma of AIDS being considered a gay disease has already led the government and the Congress to downplay the severity of the crisis, and to hold up necessary funding. We've all seen a glimmer of hope in the aftermath of the Rock Hudson disclosure. Finally, that "non-crisis" perception may change and the money spigots open up. But there's no guarantee.

AIDS, and to an extent gays themselves, are going to be critical issues in next year's congressional elections. A conservative activist quoted in the *Washington Times* said, "[AIDS] will be the major issue of 1986." Those who have been silent about their prejudice against gays and lesbians are finally speaking out, because they now consider the disease — and gays — to be a direct threat to them. They are saying and demanding a lot of ugly things, and many of them are pressuring their representatives not to ap-

propriate sufficient funding for the disease.

It is with this awareness that the Human Rights Campaign Fund, one of the nation's largest independent political action committees, has established the AIDS Campaign Trust. ACT represents the Campaign Fund's belief that federal funding for AIDS research and treatment is a priority item — both for gays and for society in general. It will provide a pool of money to support people who are proponents of increased AIDS funding, or to defeat those who stand in the way of lifesaving support for those afflicted with AIDS and those who will become afflicted in the future.

ACT will concentrate on campaigns in which incumbents are on committees and subcommittees with jurisdiction over the federal AIDS effort and on races in which incumbents are in influential leadership positions in the House or Senate.

It would be nice if those of us who have spent the past several years trying to do what Rock Hudson was able to do overnight could just sit back, breathe a sigh of relief, and consider a large part of our job to be finished. After all, who now could argue that increased funding for AIDS shouldn't be a paramount national priority? The unfortunate answer to that question, of course, is plenty of people.

Rock Hudson has solved one of our problems. But the new attention focusing on gays may lead to other problems. We hope the AIDS Campaign Trust, in a large way, will offset the pressure that is being applied by a scared, ignorant, vocal minority that, at best, would like to see nothing done and, at worst, would like to put us all in quarantine.

Yes, AIDS is and will remain a political issue. And, as much as we might prefer otherwise, it will take political pressure and political contributions to get things done.

HRCF Gala Set for Oct. 4

Sup. John L. Molinari, President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, presented Jerry E. Berg and Chuck Forester with a check for \$1,500 for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Berg is the founding national co-chair of the Campaign Fund and Forester is presently the board member from the Bay Area. Sup. Molinari is one of 43 sponsors who have committed to raise \$1,500 for the Campaign Fund's gala event on Oct. 4. A long-time supporter of gay rights, Molinari is the first sponsor to fulfill his commitment.

For further information contact Craig Applewhite at 546-7635.



Chuck Forester, John Molinari and Jerry E. Berg

(Photo: Rink)

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Calendar Honors SF – But Not Gays

Ethnic History, Diversity Commemorated But No Mention of Harvey Milk, Gay Parade

by Charles Linebarger

Hawaii's Duke Kahanamoku and Benigno Aquino of the Philippines are among the hundreds of names commemorated in a 1985 neighborhood calendar paid for in large part by the Mayor's Office of Community Development (OCD). But there is no mention of the late Sup. Harvey Milk or of the biggest tourist drawing parade in San Francisco, the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade. To find out why, *Bay Area Reporter* talked to Judy Bebelhaar, a teacher at Galileo High School and a member of the core group which put together the calendar.

Bebelaar admitted that she, along with local poet, John Marron, made the decision as to what to put into the calendar. Titled "And Still It Moves," it was done at Galileo High School and Bebelhaar said that the nature of the school and its students "helped us to determine the theme of the calendar."

The large, glossy calendar has a green cover brightened by two color reproductions of San Francisco wall murals depicting scenes from Filipino history. Throughout the calendar, the theme appears to be the ethnic diversity of the city and its students. Poetic descriptions of what it is like to be black, Burmese, Chinese, native Hawaiian, for example, are given full-page treatment at the beginning of each new month. But the words gay and lesbian are absent throughout. Even in the small print.

Bebelaar said of the calendar, "It's a way for students to learn about their culture and other cultures. We didn't determine who to represent by their percentage of the total population, but tried to make sure that everyone was represented."

The total cost of putting out the calendar was \$9,500 of which \$6,500 was paid for by the

Bebelaar said, "And I try to talk to them about gay people as much as I can."

Bebelaar said that she has since talked over the situation with her student researcher. "She [the researcher] had several names that she felt were really interesting," Bebelhaar said. "We're for sure going to put in Gay Freedom Day, and a gay friend of mine mentioned the Stonewall Riots and that will go in too."

Financially, according to Bebelhaar, the calendar is having problems. A verbally promised grant of \$3-4,000 failed to materialize last year and the calendar operation is still in debt because of that. In addition OCD may not be bankrolling this year's production. "Right now we only have \$2,500 for this year," Bebelhaar said. But she is hopeful of making amends to the gay community next time. ■

When asked about including notice of Harvey Milk's assassination, Bebelhaar said "That's a good idea. Maybe we can put it in this year. Sometimes we omitted very important things. We left out the Fourth of July too, and we put Thanksgiving on a Friday. But we want to include everything in San Francisco."

Bebelaar agreed that leaving out all mention of the words lesbian and gay was a "big omission." She added that they were putting next year's calendar, "into the computer now. If you give me suggestions I will send students to the library (to do the research)."

Gays and lesbians are mentioned in the calendar but not identified as gay or lesbian. Among well-known gays and lesbians commemorated is Gertrude Stein. Stein was honored with a quote for Feb. 3. "Gertrude Stein, 1974 . . . There ain't no answer, there never has been any answer, there ain't gonna be no answer, and that's the answer — dying words."

"We did include Gertrude Stein as an artist, but we didn't mention she was a lesbian," Bebelhaar commented.

"Kids tend to be angry at things they don't understand,"

Study Confirms Poppers As AIDS Co-Factor

Researchers at the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine in Denver have found evidence confirming long-held suspicions that isobutyl nitrite, a recreational drug widely used among gays, increases the risks associated with AIDS.

The scientists have shown that inhalation of isobutyl nitrite may further impair the body's ability to fight off infectious disease in individuals with the immune-system abnormalities characteristic of AIDS. The drug, known as poppers, is sold as incense or a "room odorizer" but used as an aphrodisiac.

The studies involved a type of mouse, bred at the National Jewish center, that is born with AIDS-like immune deficiencies. According to principal investigator Dr. P.R.J. Gangadharan, after breathing isobutyl nitrite the animals became highly susceptible to disease and death caused by a group of organisms related to tuberculosis. The infection is similar to one of the leading killers of people with AIDS.

Mice of the same breed which were exposed to the bacteria but not to the drug had lower illness and mortality rates.

The National Jewish scientists also linked specific immune-system damage with isobutyl nitrite. "The animals exposed to the compound had decreased numbers of lymphocytes and macrophages, blood cells that are important in defending the body against infections," Gangadharan said. The researchers now are working to describe more precisely the drug's immunologic effects.

"We believe our findings establish that inhaling isobutyl nitrite should be considered dangerous to homosexuals and others at high risk for developing AIDS," he said.

Co-investigators with Gangadharan were V.K. Perumal, B.T. Jairam, and A.K.C. Nguyen.

The research was funded under a \$230,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health. ■

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Canadian Officials Seize Gay Books

TORONTO—Two Canadian bookshops have been at war with Canadian customs officials over imports of gay and lesbian erotic material.

Glad Day Books of Toronto has been fighting a long battle with the government. In May, *The Leatherman's Handbook No. 2* was seized. The bookshop is still appealing the seizure. In July, six books—one of which was a safe sex manual—were impounded. Recently, more books were detained away from Glad Day, including *The Men with the Pink Triangle*, Heinz Hager's book about gay men in Nazi Germany.

Russell Armstrong of Glad Day said that customs now looks "at every title" which comes into Toronto for Glad Day. Customs officials would only comment that the seizures were not "technically" a seizure. They would not say why the books were taken.

On the other side of the country, Little Sister's a gay bookshop in Vancouver, was experiencing the same difficulties. *Bad Attitude*, a lesbian magazine out of Boston, was picked up by customs, as well as two gay novels (*Independence Day* and *Another Runner in the Night*) and two social studies books (*The Male Couple*, an American book about gay male relationships, and *Men in Frocks*, a British book on drag).

According to some officials at Little Sister's, two other lesbian porn magazines, *On Our Backs* and *Outrageous Women*, are still "sneaking into the country."

—The Body Politic of Toronto

Gays Picket Gays Over South Africa

LONDON—A new British gay organization is picketing a British gay publication company for sending books to South Africa. Gays and Lesbians Against Racism (GLAIR) set up picket lines outside the offices of Gay Men's Press (GMP) after the latter signed a contract with a South African distribution company.

GMP claims that its exportation of radical reading materials to the South African nation "helps in a small way to undermine the apartheid regime."

"An extended concept of family, increased AIDS funding, and basic justice are among my priorities," Scondras added. "I'll be working to make them part of the city's agenda as well."

Scondras had a staff of volunteers numbering around 200 workers. This kind of organization was just too much for both Porteus and Fiscus to overcome.

"David's commitment to social justice for all people has earned him respect and credibility in many diverse communities," said Elena Rivas, vice-chair of Boston's Rainbow Coalition and director of Scondras' constituent service system. "Who else could win 2-1 in the wealthiest area on Beacon Hill and over 3-1 in the poorest sections of public housing?"

—Prepared from a news release from the staff of Boston City Councillor David Scondras.



David Scondras

(Photo: Rink)

false testimony. Psychiatrists who testified about the boy's mental competence were found to have never interviewed the minor.

The decision may affect a charge against local gay activist John Zeh, who was accused of molesting the same boy. Zeh, who is free on bail while awaiting an appeal, was convicted based on testimony from the same psychiatrists.

—The New York Native

FDA Gets Papers For Isoprinosine

NEWPORT BEACH—Newport Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., the firm which has produced Isoprinosine, announced last week it has filed a New Drug Application (NDA) with the United States Food and Drug Administration. If approved, Newport would be able to market its drug in the United States.

Newport recently completed three double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trials with 157 immunodepressed patients at risk for developing AIDS. The treatments lasted 28 days with the patients using either Isoprinosine or a placebo.

The U.S. data in the New Drug Application is supported by a number of foreign studies involving 676 immunodepressed patients who did not have AIDS or pre-AIDS. These studies showed immunorestitution and clinical benefits.

—Prepared from a news release from Newport Pharmaceuticals International

Mexican Drug Firm Defies Newport

TIJUANA—Newport Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. reportedly refused to renew the license of a Mexican pharmaceuticals firm which had been making Isoprinosine without a substantial increase in the licensing fee.

According to one official in the Tijuana Health Department, Laboratorios Sanfer received the word from Newport that its fee for producing Isoprinosine was going up. Dr. Nelson Bonilla said that Laboratorios Sanfer told Newport the fee was too much to pay.

—Update of Southern California

NATIONAL/WORLD NEWS

Scondras Scores Big Win

BOSTON—Openly gay Boston City Councillor David Scondras scored an impressive victory in Boston's preliminary elections on September 10 when he captured 61.3 percent of the vote. Scondras, a Democrat, will face Republican Judy Porteus in the Nov. 5 District 8 race.

The political implications of Scondras' overwhelming preliminary win over Porteus and gay rights opponent Glenn Fiscus were not lost on Scondras. Because of Scondras, District 8 was watched quite closely all over Massachusetts. Scondras had protested Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis' order to remove children from the homes of gay and lesbian foster parents, an order which led the Bay State's House to label all gay and lesbian people a threat to children.

"The scope of this victory," said Scondras, "proves that even in a widely diverse district, candidates can win re-election because of their outspoken support for gay rights, not despite it."

However, GLAIR members don't agree, citing the demand for total isolation of the South African government by African National Congress. However, even supporters of the ANC feel the boycott of books and magazines represents a complex situation.

"Our overall policy is to secure a total isolation of South Africa but it would be ridiculous to put our energies into pressuring radical publishers," said Anti-Apartheid spokesperson Mike Terry. "GLAIR is way off in terms of who they should be targeting."

What complicates matters even more is that GMP has applied for a license grant from the Greater London Council, a strong supporter of the South African boycott. The publishing firm says it will abide by any boycott decision about South Africa which the ANC and other members of the Anti-Apartheid movement endorse.

—The Body Politic of Toronto

Oklahoma Gov. Signs Two Anti-Gay Laws

OKLAHOMA CITY—Oklahoma Gov. George Nigh signed into law two bills which allow discrimination against gays and lesbians.

One law calls for dismissal of Oklahoma school teachers who bring homosexuality to the attention of students. This law says teachers can be dismissed for engaging in "criminal sexual activity or sexual conduct that has impeded the effectiveness of (their) performance of school duties."

Nigh's second new law is a new fair housing law which denies gay men and lesbians the same protection from discrimination as other minority groups get.

—The New York Native

Ohio Court Drops Molestation Charge Against Gay Man

CINCINNATI—A decision by an Ohio state Court of Appeals freed one gay man of a molestation charge and may be used as a basis for freeing another gay man who is being charged with molesting the same 16-year-old boy.

Jerry Joseph had been charged with molesting the 16-year-old boy. However, the Appeals Court dropped the charges because of

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Insurers To Push For Blood Test

National Lobby Backs Move To Use HTLV-3 Test As Screen for AIDS

By Ray O'Loughlin

The American Council of Life Insurance has endorsed efforts to repeal California state law forbidding use of AIDS virus antibody tests as a screening device for prospective insurance buyers. The national insurance lobby maintains that those at high risk of contracting AIDS pose a special threat to other insurance policy holders by raising all premiums.

At a recent meeting of the organization's board of directors in Pebble Beach, California, the council took the position that insurance companies should have access to the HTLV-3 blood test results just as they would "use other medical information which they may develop."

According to Carl Heimann, of the gay-owned Schmidt & Schmidt insurance agency, this was the latest round in the ongoing insurance battle over AIDS.

"They were simply coming out of the closet so to speak," said Heimann. "They were admitting that the white paper that was circulated in Sacramento recently was theirs after all." He was referring to the document that surfaced last month proposing that portions of A.B. 403 be repealed (see *B.A.R.*, Aug. 29). That law, by San Francisco Assemblymember Art Agnos, presently guarantees confidentiality to all records of tests for the HTLV-3 virus antibodies.

Heimann said he believed that A.B. 403 would not now be affected by the insurance lobby's efforts. "We can hold them off in California for the foreseeable future," he said. "But it's going to be much worse for our brothers and sisters in other states where no protections exist."

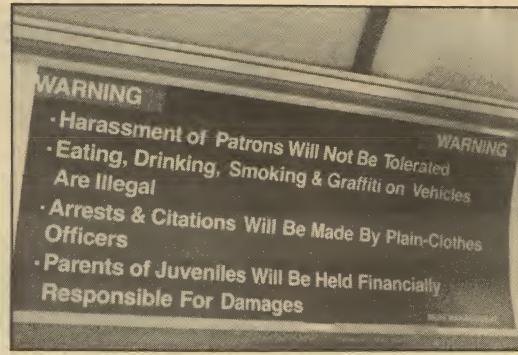
Jim Spahr, another insurance representative who deals with the gay community, also doubted that the council's threat posed any immediate danger. "I don't think that's going to happen," said Spahr in reference to repeal moves. "The sentiment now is that the state should guard those results. If confidentiality is lost," he said, "the test will be useless."

Spahr said he had not seen any effort on the part of the company he deals with to screen out gays as special risks. "There's very little question that insurance companies know they're insuring people who are gay," said Spahr. "There are diseases, such as anal warts, that are peculiar to gay men and stand out in medical records." He said that insurers would not need the HTLV-3 blood test to decline gays for health or life insurance if they decided to do so.

Spahr also maintained that the costs to insurers for AIDS were no greater a burden than that posed by other medical problems. "A person who has had open heart surgery will run up \$80,000-\$100,000 in bills for the operation plus \$3-4,000 a year for 20 years after," he said. AIDS may be expensive to treat in the short term but community efforts, such as home care, can also keep costs down.

Spahr said that any form of redlining by insurance companies is "patently illegal." But he cautioned insurance buyers to be careful about what is contained in their medical records that could render them uninsurable.

Heimann repeated that advice, saying, "The consumer has to be very careful" in dealing with insurance companies and medical records.



Muni's firm warning.

(Photo: Rink)

Muni Warnings: Violence Not Tolerated

by Allen White

Three months have now passed since the late Saturday night beating of Liam Kelleher took place on a 24-Divisadero bus on June 9. The beating called attention to continuing violence on the Muni. Since that time the city has moved to eliminate verbal harassment and physical assaults on the transit system.

The latest action has been the placement of stark warning signs on Muni buses. The signs are direct in their message that harassment of patrons will not be tolerated. The consequences of acts against patrons are clearly defined.

The signs were reportedly to have been personally designed by Public Utilities Commissioner General Manager Rudolf Nothenberg. Nothenberg has directly felt the heat from several members of the board of supervisors as well as stern directives

from Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

As effective as the signs are at stating the facts, to date the signs have only appeared on diesel buses. For whatever the reason, the electrified trolley buses do not carry the signs. The 24-Divisadero is an electrified bus.

Another major effort has been made to educate, and if necessary, discipline drivers. Last month a Muni Metro driver in a four car train chose to make comments relating to stopping at the Castro Station because passengers might potentially have AIDS. Talking to a driver in one of the other cars, he said, "It's a shame Anita Bryant had to suffer financially for the position she took."

The incident was reported to Muni management and, following a hearing, the driver was suspended.

Credit for most of the changes that are taking place relating to safety on Muni can be attributed to Mayor Feinstein and her aide, Alan Lubliner.

The turning point was a meeting of the Mayor's Task Force on Muni Violence. Participating in the effort are the police department, the District Attorney's office, all levels of Muni management and the Public Utilities Commission. The gay community has been the primary catalyst behind this action with the Community United Against Violence monitoring the activity.

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Three gay choral conductors from the Bay Area share a joke at the GALA conference. From left to right are Bob Tharp, Dick Kramer and Gregg Tallman.
(Photo: Jim Marks)

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Gay Choristers Plan Nat'l Festival

GALA Conference Draws 90; Network Shares Music—and Problems

by Greg Vogel

Music directors from four gay choruses in the Bay Area met their counterparts from across the United States and Canada recently at a meeting in Washington, D.C. The occasion was the annual conference of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses), a group that got its start five years ago in San Francisco.

Among the nearly 90 conference were Gregg Tallman, the recently appointed director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus; Dick Kramer, that group's well-known former conductor, now director of the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale; Bob Tharp, director of Oakland's Temescal Gay Men's Chorus; and Frank Ferris, assistant conductor of San Jose's group, Liedermann, plus a host of associated board members and managers. The meeting, held over Labor Day weekend at George Washington University, was packed with workshops on everything from achieving tax-exempt status to meeting the needs of new groups like the 10-voice Spruce Street Singers (Philadelphia), as well as the 100-voice, high-gloss choruses like those in New York, D.C., Seattle, Chicago, Portland, and Los Angeles. Big groups, with hundred-thousand-dollar production budgets, professional recordings, and major concert hall bookings, tend to outshine the small, often struggling choruses.

With nearly 40 member choruses, GALA has a tough job meeting the needs of new groups like the 10-voice Spruce Street Singers (Philadelphia), as well as the 100-voice, high-gloss choruses like those in New York, D.C., Seattle, Chicago, Portland, and Los Angeles. Big groups, with hundred-thousand-dollar production budgets, professional recordings, and major concert hall bookings, tend to outshine the small, often struggling choruses.

Yet, an effort was made at the conference to focus on "some of the unique problems of the smaller choruses," said Temescal GMC Director Bob Tharp, who called it "very possibly one of the best GALA conferences I've ever attended."

Besides conferences, GALA acts as a clearinghouse for information, a music sharing network, and an advocacy group.

Board members gave an update

on progress in the recent battle

with the American Choral

Director's Association—a con-

servative, Oklahoma-based na-

tional organization that had

refused to recognize GALA or its

members until it was forced in-

to a "showdown" last March at

a convention in Salt Lake City.

GALA proposed the ACDA

adopt a disclaimer, so that it would not officially endorse any of its members who often perform at ACDA meetings—including such groups as the U.S. Singing Sargeants and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. GALA president and New York City Gay Men's Chorus director Gary Miller pointed out that these choruses could be considered equally controversial by ACDA members. The ACDA executive board is planning a vote on the proposal soon.

A major function of GALA is to plan music festivals every three years. The first national festival was held in New York. The next will be held July 4 weekend, 1986, in Minneapolis/St. Paul. More than 1,200 singers and friends will gather for four days of concerts, culminating in several commissioned "massed works" written by gay and lesbian composers. A documentary film, *Our Time to Sing*, will be produced if funds for the project can be raised nationally. Both the San Francisco GMC and Dick Kramer GMC will perform at the 1986 "GALA II" festival.

While GALA includes several lesbian groups and gay/lesbian mixed choruses, women were hard to find at the latest conference. GALA board member and women's liaison Christine Inserra noted that "a lot of women's choruses are small and not as organized . . . They're not big money choruses, and they just can't afford to come out here for meetings."

Inserra also pointed out that many gay women's groups belong to the Sister Singer's Network, an informal organization geared exclusively to women's interests. In an attempt to increase lesbian participation, the GALA board passed a motion to start a scholarship fund that will help defray travel costs.

For information on GALA, contact Gary Miller, 132 W. 24th St., New York, NY 10011. To find out more about "Our Time to Sing," contact David Roggensack, 536 W. 11th St., New York, NY 10025, telephone: (212) 663-0556.

TV Coverage of LA Benefit

by Allen White

The highly competitive television news industry turns its focus this week to the AIDS Project L.A. benefit tonight at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. The sold-out "Commitment to Life" dinner hosted by Elizabeth Taylor will include the presentation of a special award to Betty Ford. She will be escorted to the dinner by San Francisco gay Republican activist Bruce Decker.

San Franciscans will have the opportunity to view the Hollywood festivities as ample coverage is given to the event.

Thursday night's coverage will begin with KPIX's (Ch. 6) 6 o'clock news. Reporter Jim Bunn

and the AIDS Lifeline team, which includes consultant Dr. Mervyn Silverman, will report live from Los Angeles on AIDS in Los Angeles. Channel 5 bureau chief Miranda Dunne will report in a second segment on the same show on the dinner.

KTVU (Ch. 2) will report on the dinner during their 10 o'clock news with a possible live feed through the facilities of KHJ-TV in Los Angeles.

At 11:30 p.m., ABC's Nightline is reportedly ready to air a show on homophobia in the entertainment industry. Joan Rivers has reportedly already been interviewed for the show.

Though no official informa-

tion has been made available, all three morning network shows, The Today Show, AM America and the CBS Morning News are rumored to be preparing special segments on the dinner and on AIDS.

The Phil Donahue Show at 4 p.m. on Friday is expected to be a dramatic look directly at homophobia in the entertainment industry.

KPIX on Friday will feature two segments in their 6 o'clock news with Dr. Mervyn Silverman, Jim Bunn, Miranda Dunne in Los Angeles. Friday night at 7:30 p.m., KRON-TV will broadcast segments from the dinner on their "Entertainment Tonight" program.

DEATHS

Randy Lee Feldt

After a long illness with pneumonia, Randy Feldt passed away on Sept. 12. His Christian beliefs comforted him during his struggle to the end.

Born in 1952 in Denver, Randy graduated from the University of New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Theory and Composition. He graduated with honors from Touro Infirmary School of Nursing in New Orleans.

He was the founder and director of the Crescent City Chamber Choir of New Orleans, where he produced many critically acclaimed concerts for chamber choir and orchestra.

In 1983, he received a Bachelor of Music in Conducting from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. For seven years he worked as staff nurse at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco. He served as Director of Music for five years at Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, San Francisco. He became Music Director of the Point Richmond Madrigal Singers in the Bay Area in 1984.

Randy had a rich life, filled with classical music, much love and a great joy for life and love of beauty. His candor, charm, compassion and generosity will be deeply missed by the many lives he has enriched. He is survived by his life-partner of 12 years, Peter Niland, and his parents Ethel and Irving Feldt of Houston and their children Barry, Karen and Sherri.

Randy requested that remembrances be made to Shanti Project, Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, and San Francisco Network Ministries. Checks may be made payable to Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church to be distributed to Shanti and S.F.N.M. For further information, contact the Telephase Society at 928-7526. ■

John Trussell

Our dear friend, John Edward Trussell, passed away due to AIDS on Sept. 5, at 5:35 p.m., at his home in San Francisco.

He was born in Adams, Wis., on April 16, 1947. His last few months were very hard for him and we all hope he has now found the peace he was seeking.

John was loved by many people and made many good friends the past 10 years he lived here. He is survived by his loving sister, Marie Vickers, of Wisconsin and his companion of many years, Kerry Spencer.

All of us will miss him immensely, but will keep his spirit alive and well within our hearts. Be at peace, John, and someday we will all be as one. ■

—R. Bach



John Brannon

John D. Brannon passed away peacefully in his sleep on Friday, Sept. 13, from a heart attack.

John's favorite place in this world was the beach at San Gregorio. In accordance with his wishes, his ashes will be scattered there one bright, sunny day in the future. For information please contact Keith Peter 503-0320. ■

Ronald (Marc) Marcus

A cloud does not know Why it moves in just such a Direction and at such A speed, It feels an impulsion . . . This is the place to go now. But the sky knows The reasons and the patterns Behind all clouds, And you will know, too, when You lift yourself high enough To see beyond Horizons.

—R. Bach



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Don Kleinfelter

Don Kleinfelter died Sept. 13. Recently diagnosed with AIDS, Don lived his last days as he always lived: hopeful, positive, supportive and loving.

Don taught by example. He empowered with his silent strength, his humor and his firm belief in life's possibilities. He was committed to making a difference in people's lives. He challenged us to overcome fear, open our hearts and achieve greatness and happiness. And, finally, he taught that death takes only the body from us.

Join a personal service on Sept. 22 and celebrate our love for Don. Contact Charlie (550-1391), or Andy (431-5646) for information. ■



and sister, Carol, and by many, many friends.

A memorial gathering is planned. For information, please call Derris Clark at (415) 864-5379. ■

Fred is survived by his father, Edwin; his mother, Elizabeth; his brother, Rick

and sister, Carol, and by many, many friends.

A memorial gathering is planned. For information, please call Derris Clark at (415) 864-5379. ■

Eroticize Safe Sex

The fall version of the popular community forum "Eroticizing the Safe Sex Guidelines" will be given on Thursday, Sept. 26, between 7 and 10 p.m., at 1523 Franklin St. (between Bush and Pine). The event is free to the public and sponsored by The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality.

Information for the forum has been carefully researched by professional sex educators and therapists and is presented in a manner guaranteed to put sizzle, fun and a XXX rating into sexual hygiene and AIDS prevention. The evening will feature hot and healthy tips on how to design a safe-sex lifestyle, sexy ways to get into low risk scenes, a "Safe-Sex Fuck-a-rama," and a "Risk Reduction Playshop." The forum will be conducted by Maggi Rubenstein, Ph.D.; David Lourea, Ed.D.; and Clark Taylor, Ph.D., Ed.D.

Because seating is limited, be sure to reserve a place in advance by phoning 928-1133 week days between 9 and 5 p.m. On the evening of Sept. 26 reservations must be redeemed by 6:45. After that time, remaining space will be filled on a "first come, first serve" basis. ■

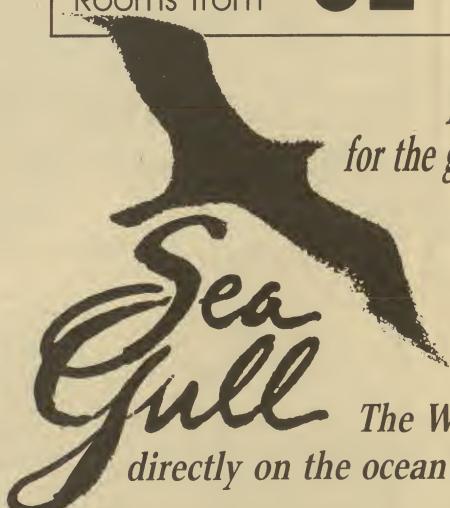
AIDS-Care Meets

A new health-service group called AIDS-Care will be holding its second open meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street. AIDS-Care plans three projects: to organize an International Conference on AIDS, to start a community newsletter devoted to health and healing, and to establish an independent Community Healing Center. The Healing Center will offer a wide range of conventional and alternative therapies, as well as information and counseling, to persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. The two-day conference will be held here in San Francisco early in 1986, and will feature talks by people who are doing outstanding work in the fields of scientific research, medical treatment, and spiritual healing. For more information, call 552-3038 or 552-4445. ■

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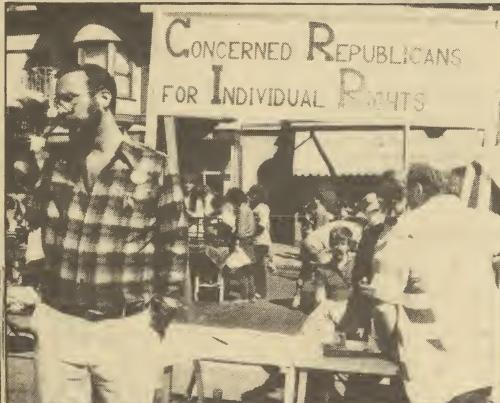
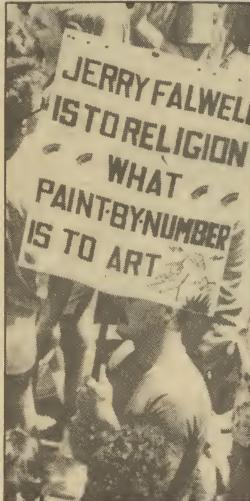
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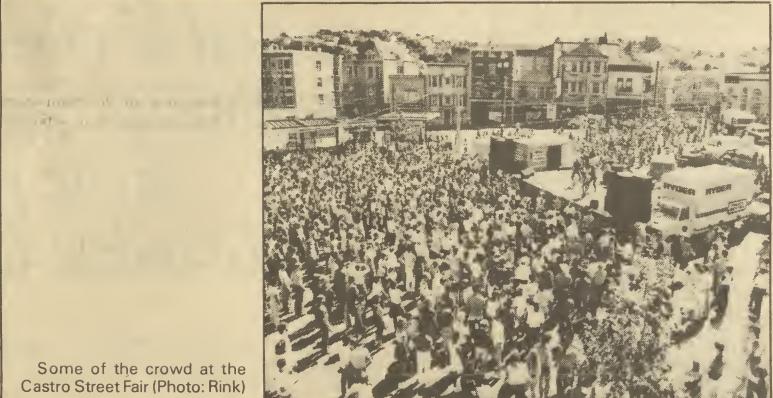
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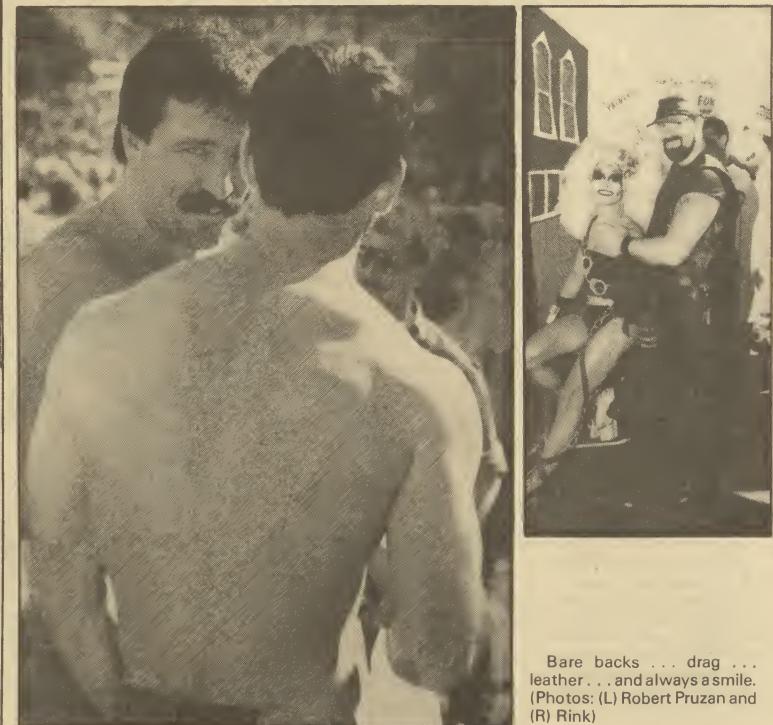
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There was a time to get serious (above left and left) and a time to just feel nice and friendly (above right). (Photos: above left and left: Rink and above right: Robert Pruzan).



Some of the crowd at the Castro Street Fair (Photo: Rink)



Bare backs . . . drag . . . leather . . . and always a smile. (Photos: (L) Robert Pruzan and (R) Rink)



A baby gets a warm hello

(Photo: Rink)

Plaza Dedicated at 12th Castro Fair

by Allen White

For a few moments last Sunday, the world of Harvey Milk came alive in a very special way. It was the day of the 12th Castro Street Fair and the unveiling of the Harvey Milk Plaza.

The day began with the official dedication of the plaza in the park area between the Castro Street Muni Metro station and the Bank of America branch. For the dedication, Gilbert Baker and friends had completely covered the walls with white cloth carrying the words of Harvey Milk. The quotes, like "buzz words," opened up chapters of San Francisco gay history. "No on 6," "Mayor of Castro Street," "Out of the Closet," "My name is Harvey Milk — and I want to recruit you."

Below the words in the plaza were the people. Many wore "Milk for Supervisor" t-shirts. Campaign buttons stating, "Harvey Milk, Supervisor/5" were everywhere. Milk was elected in 1977 to the office of supervisor in district elections and the Castro area was District 5. Harvey Milk was assassinated by Dan White on Nov. 27, 1978, less than one year after he took office as San Francisco's first elected gay official. Last Sunday his people gathered and his memory came alive.

The MC for the event was Sally Gearhart. Many remembered how she and Harvey Milk had debated John Briggs in a televised confrontation. That debate was broadcast throughout the state as the two opposed Briggs on a ballot proposition that would have prohibited school teachers from teaching if they were gay.

Supervisor Harry Britt succeeded Harvey Milk to the District 5 office. Sunday as he spoke, he reminded the crowd of how proud he is to be gay. He

reminded the crowd that Harvey Milk was a man who happened to be gay. Milk made being gay a top priority in his life.

San Francisco Supervisor Board President John Molinari then presented a special resolution to Scott Smith. Smith has worked since Milk's death to keep the spirit of his ex-lover alive. He is the keeper of the Harvey Milk Archives.

It was then time for the unveiling. The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale began to sing. As they sang, the friends of Harvey Milk tore down the cloth covering the plaza revealing the bronze sign: HARVEY MILK PLAZA.

People looked up with emotion, some with a tear, many with smiles. They were the world of Harvey Milk. Cleve Jones, Dick Pabich, Randy Shilts, Rob Epstein, Danny Nicoletta, Wayne Friday, Tony Hartman, Jim Rivaldo, Walter Caplan, Carl Carlson, Rick Slick. There were many others who had become a part of the life and the legend of Harvey Milk, "the Mayor of Castro Street."

At this point, Sally Gearhart announced, "Let the Fair begin!"

The sun was shining as the fair, for the first time was held in September. The Castro Street Fair was founded by Harvey Milk in 1974 as a way to generate interest in the Castro community. Spiraling high above Castro Street for the 12th annual production was a rainbow of balloons.

Down the center of Castro Street were the many booths.

The day has become a laid back carnival of arts and crafts. In front of Crown Books there was a man who spent the afternoon swallowing swords, a first for the Castro Street Fair.

As the weather warmed, shirts came off. Castro Street Station pulsated with music. Down the street at the Bear, the crowd was boozing, then cheering, as the 49ers moved from defeat to victory. Across the street at The Special, more cheers and boos were heard with each touch down.

The street was filled with home video cameras and, as usual, there were enough drag queens and muscular men to satisfy the eye of the camera and the beholder.

On Market Street, entertainment was on the main stage. This year much of the action was keyed to dancing. The Body Rhythms gave an exciting display of aerobic dancing. Gary and Gloria Poole were upstaged by a group of dancers they pulled to the stage for an impromptu dance contest. Later in the afternoon there was dancing by Skip Barrett and the Foggy City Ramblers. The comedy hit of the day was Tom Ammiano.

Down Market Street were the public service and political booths. There were booths for travel specials, gay outdoor clubs, and free spinal exams. Located throughout the fair were information booths for the AIDS Project, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Shanti Project.

As he has been for the last 12 years, Rick Slick was the driving force behind the Castro Street Fair. In many ways, the secret to the success of the event is, it doesn't change. It is a framework for people to relax and be themselves. It is San Francisco's expression of gay pride without the need to flaunt.

But the 1985 Castro Street Fair was unique. It had the presence, in spirit, of Harvey Milk.



There was room for all kinds of socializing.



(Photos: (L) Robert Pruzan; (R) Rink)

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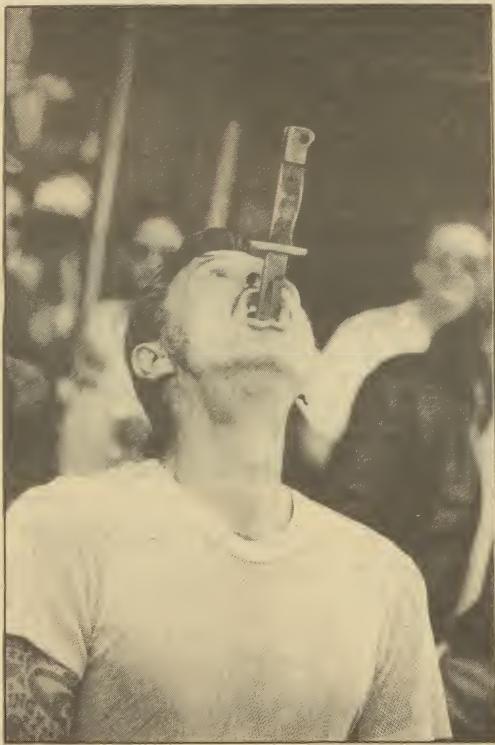
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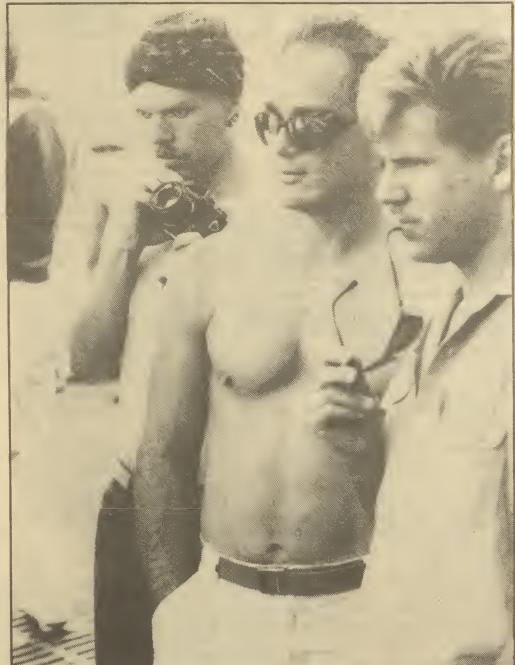


Some girls will just hang out anywhere

(Photo: Robert Pruzan)

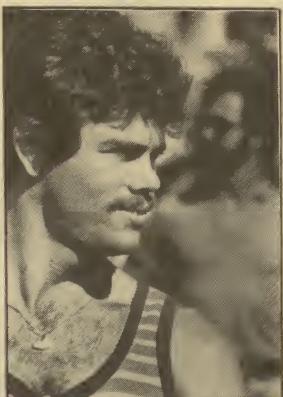


Meet me at the Fair



Captain Don Leslie shows off the finer point of sword-swallowing; leaving three guys mesmerized.

(Photos: (L) Robert Pruzan; (R) Rink)



Castro Street meant a good-looking guy, a certificate of honor and a hard-working singer.

(Photos: (L) and (R) Robert Pruzan; and (C) Rink)

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

S.J. Baths Denied Maintenance Service

Workers Refuse to Enter Bathhouse For Fear of Catching AIDS

by Charles Linebarger

Maintenance men from Western State Design in San Leandro have refused to service a broken washing machine and dryer at the Watergarden Bathhouse in San Jose it was learned last week. Sal Accardi, the owner of the Watergarden, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he was told that Western State Design's employees were "not comfortable dealing with a gay bathhouse."

Western State had serviced the laundry machines at the bathhouse, according to Accardi, for three years. When the machines broke down a couple of weeks ago Accardi called for help.

"They told me," Accardi said, "that even though upper management understood the situation, their employees refused to service them. I blew my lid."

Accardi said he then tried to educate the people at Western State Design. "I reiterated what I had heard over the years about AIDS and tried to educate them," he said. "And then I made it very clear that they would be talking to my lawyer because they had put us in a very awkward situation."

The unrepaired laundry machines made it impossible, according to the bathhouse owner, to do necessary laundry as fast as needed. The Watergarden was forced to change over to providing sheets to its customers instead of the blankets it normally provides.

A similar incident occurred three years ago, according to Accardi, when Maier Mechanics in San Jose, also refused to service the bathhouse for fear of catching AIDS. "We had purchased tens of thousands of dollars of air conditioning equipment from them over a six year period," Accardi said.

Apparently the actions of Western State Design were a repeat of what had occurred earlier with Maier Mechanics. According to Accardi Maier refused to service the air conditioning system they had installed for fear of catching AIDS. "That was the first time I had experienced irrational fear like that on a professional level," Accardi recalled.

At that time also the bathhouse owner had tried to explain to frightened employees of the service company that it would be impossible to contract AIDS through the bathhouse's ventilation system. Accardi explained to them that many more people would be coming down with the disease if it were, in fact, spread through ventilation systems.

"This came right after the Legionnaires' thing," Accardi noted, "but just about when AIDS first hit. They wouldn't come out and we found someone else."

In the meantime, Accardi has called another service company, Western Automation Corp., from which the Watergarden originally bought its washers and dryers.

Eight years ago, according to the Watergarden's owner, the bathhouse spent \$20,000 on industrial washers and dryers from Western Automation Corp. Ac-

cardi said that since "these are not your regular run-of-the-mill General Electric appliances, we had assumed that there would be service." But as with the other two service companies, Western Automation abruptly refused to

(Continued on page 20)



Sal Accardi

(Photo: Rink)

E. Bay Studio Hits Sour Notes for Gay Duo

Gay Love Songs Won't Play in Hayward; No Legal Recourse to Overt Homophobia

by Will Snyder

Ron Romanovsky realizes nothing can be done about the problems he and singing partner Paul Phillips had recently with a Hayward recording studio. He just wants members of the gay community to know about what the singing duo, Romanovsky and Phillips, went through with MasterTrack Productions.

"I'm angry and I want to draw attention to what MasterTrack did with us," said Romanovsky.

What MasterTrack did, according to Romanovsky, was refuse to record cassettes of Romanovsky and Phillips' album. In late August, they took a copy of their album, *I Thought You'd Be Taller*, to MasterTrack to see if the company would

make 300 cassettes.

"At first we thought everything was going to be fine," Romanovsky said. "They were friendly to us. They gave us a tour of the facilities. I think they really wanted us to know just

(Continued on page 20)

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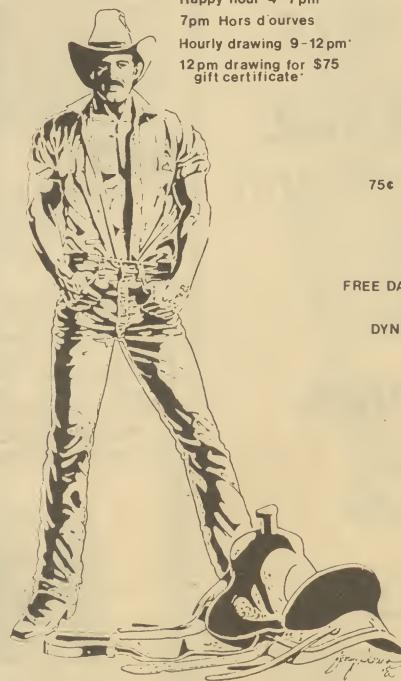
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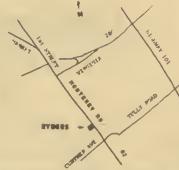
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A few hundred plus al fresco souls turned Hidden Valley Ranch in Fremont into an authentic Fairy Land last Sunday. Was it our fault that a wedding was being performed on the terrace of an adjoining club house? They did request that the music volume be lowered a bit (a request which met with compliance). But one can only wonder how the bride and groom reacted and explained the drag race — which, I'm sure must have cropped into some of the nuptial pictures!

For those of you who just may be unfamiliar with the Tavern Guild Picnic Drag Race, let me fill you in. Along a pre-plotted course are spotted various "pit stops" in which the contestants must retrieve an article of clothing, put it on, and race to the next container of garments. The first is always the high heels. Entrants must select a matching pair. Of course, they are all totally mixed up. Then on to the brassieres, the girdles, panty hose, hats, and finish line.

All items must be reasonably in place on the body in order to win. Dolly Levi, in control of the hat concession, tried to delay the race a bit by throwing the chapeaus hither and yon, but several lucky runners managed to catch them in mid-flight.

Vyers from Hayward bars managed to secure first and second places, with the third going to a San Franciscan. The East Bay gleaned the lion's share of trophies for "best picnic table decoration" with Bill's the Eagle winning third, Spoiled Brat came in second, and Big Mama's was honored with first place.

Then there was "dunk-a-hunk," "dunk-a-drag," "dunk a Lennie Mollet (Chez Mollet) and Bob Ross (B.A.R.)." Also, "dunk-a-bartender" (Rick of Big Mama's was in and out of the water so many times!) . . . And "dunk whomever could climb up and fall in." Jean (of Mikki) and tried it once, but her boobs seemed just a little too floaty!

Twenty-one tables were there, and busy until the very last minute. Swimming and volleyball were continuous, as were sun bathing, cruising, table hopping, gossiping, and just plain old fashioned fun in the sun. Bravo band had its share of foot-stomping dancers throughout the entire event.

These kinds of events are truly enjoyable, mainly because you get to see so many people out of the environment of their bar syndrome. Also, you get to witness those who shouldn't wear cut-offs but do, and those who should but don't! In addition, it's refreshing just to be able to chat with people you've seen under different circumstances just being themselves.

The only disappointment that I care to mention is the fact that a few had little, if any, regard for the public grounds and left their garbage and trash wherever it

fell. That's a total "no-no," especially when we are trying so hard to cement our niche, if you will. Most everyone was extremely conscientious — but there are always the few.

Kudos must be given to John Hauser, Mike Buckey, Jim Bonko, and all their crew who arrived very early to set up, manned the concessions, and generally policed to keep "the love we dare not name" from becoming public. However, I did hear of certain "goings on" in the parked buses!

This one will be hard to beat next year. But then, the picnics have always been a picnic!

POTPOURRI DE JOUR (A Mentioning Nose)

A financial statement from the Turf Club's Casino Night reveals income (admission, door prize tickets, button sales, and donations) of \$1,934.75, while expenses (casino set-up, gifts, advertising) came to \$934.25. That left \$1,000 donated to the Godfather Fund.

"The Bible and Homosexuality" continues at New Life Metropolitan Community Church, 683 14th Street at Castro, on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. The text may be purchased for \$3. For more information, call 839-4241.

The softball game between the men and women of Oakland bars was played at the field on Edwards Avenue. What with all the handicaps imposed upon the men, it must come as no surprise that the women won. The score that I heard was something like 20 to 2, but "everyone had a fantastic time."

Loretta's (nee The In-B-

tween) had its grand opening celebration last weekend with lots of food, prizes, and entertainment. Congratulations to Larry, Gary, and Gene, for continuing the tradition.

Big Mama's fall entertainment continues with Aldo Bell and Carmelita Herron, featured in "Billie's Song," Sunday, Sept. 22 at 3 p.m. is the show time.

Don't forget that Town &

NEZ PAS

Country has Linda Land and Western Electric every Saturday from 9 to 1; and Sunday from 4 to 8. Don't miss this great hand clapping, foot stomping hoedown.

* * *

Just remember, when the going gets tough everyone leaves! That I can smile about. Love,

Nez

Music Annex in Menlo Park.

"We simply went right in there and told them, 'Look we're faggots, and if you don't like that, tell us now.' They said that wasn't a problem with them."

The words were music to Romanovsky's ears. ■

W. Snyder

Peninsula AIDS Counseling

Three "Beacon of Hope" AIDS support groups are now being operated by the Calvary Metropolitan Community Church in Redwood City, and a fourth is about to start, pastor Jack Isbell announced this week.

Each Monday evening at 7, all groups meet together first where Calvary has its services, the Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City, Brewster at Lowell Sts. Then each meets separately to concentrate on its particular concerns.

The first is a group for people who have been diagnosed with AIDS. The second is for family, friends, and lovers, the "worried well," a group concerned about the disease and desiring more education on it, is the third. The group now starting is for people with ARC, AIDS-related conditions. Each group has two facilitators.

All groups maintain strict confidentiality, and the emphasis is on growth and the celebration of life. Participation is voluntary, with each person's right to be silent honored.

Enns refused to comment on the matter.

The MasterTrack rebuke didn't stop Romanovsky and Phillips from getting cassettes made. They found a studio,

Accardi said, "they asked that no one be in the room with their employees while they work on the machines. I asked if they'd prefer it if we put masks and gloves on our employees. They said, 'No that isn't necessary.' Then I asked if they didn't service these machines in hospitals where they have AIDS and other diseases. There was no answer."

Representatives from Western State Design did not return phone calls from either Accardi or the Bay Area Reporter.

C. Linebarger

Baths

(Continued from page 19)

service the machine three years ago prompting Accardi to begin doing business with Western State Design.

Threatening suit and calling Western Automation's central office in Redmond, Washington, Accardi was able to bring pressure to bear and get the company to send out service representatives last Wednesday.

"The made one request," Ac-



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Circus Fundraiser

(Continued from page 1)

recruited Gina Moscone, widow of the late mayor, and baseball star Willie McCovey as "honorary ringmasters." Moscone and McCovey signed a letter asking for help from the Bay Area's 450 largest employers and unions.

Two corporations and one union responded, each buying a \$1,000 box with 20 seats.

Gala events depend upon big build-ups to engender excitement and create a mood that it is "the place to be." But the promotion campaign for the circus never sparked—neither the gay community, the media nor the larger community seemed to want to get excited about a circus associated with AIDS.

The major media event to hook the press into promoting the circus was an embarrassing letdown. The idea was to have one of the circus elephants deliver—"by trunk"—a special invitation to Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Feinstein at first declined, then agreed. But she agreed for the day following the James Bond "View From the Bridge" opening, a day-and-night-long media event. The press was pooped and didn't show for the elephant act. None of the major television stations, and neither of the two daily papers, appeared.

There was mild interest from local radio and TV talk shows, but some of the slots were cancelled because spokespeople could not be found to handle them. That pointed up another problem: lack of volunteer help.

"Volunteers were dressed up as clowns and distributed promotional flyers and balloons and sold tickets the three weekends prior to the event," Foster reported in an analysis of the fundraiser. But there was "a lack of volunteers, so a number of neighborhoods were not hit."

When "we attempted to have people attend gay organization meetings to promote the event, this was not done to the extent it could have been because of the lack of volunteers," Foster wrote.

HARD FEELINGS

Even afterward, the circus may have done more to hurt the fight against AIDS than to help it. Like Monday morning quar-

terbacks after the home team has been dumped in an upset, those close to the event—and those not so close—have demanded to know what went wrong. Rumors of financial improprieties and conflict-of-interest have tainted the affair.

"In the aftermath, I found out that a lot of people thought Bob (Ross) and I made a lot of money on this," said co-chair McBride.

Clouding the picture is that neither Foster nor the Foundation has yet to formally release a financial statement on the fundraiser. An audit was performed and made available on July 17—two and a half months after the event—but many of the listings for expenses are not clear.

"Being asked to be co-chair and have my name used was fine, but things went on I was not made aware of, and then I was hung out to dry," McBride said.

The chief complaint is that the largest single expense was paid through Foster's agency, Jim Foster Associates, to manage the event. This "production staff" expense totaled \$13,500 and included \$10,000 for Charles Hemmingson—Foster employee—to manage the circus fundraiser. Another \$3,500 was paid to a Foster associate, Debbie McNamee, who served as publicity director.

"The question is, when is an event a fundraiser, and when is it creating a job for somebody?" McBride said.

In the original budget for the event, salary for the producer—Foster's employee Hemmingson—was set at \$50 an hour.

Foster defended the fees, and said, "I myself made nothing on this. I made not one dime." He said that overall staff costs were cut from \$17,000 to \$13,500 when it appeared the circus would not sell out.

"Charles (Hemmingson) agreed to do it for the fee he charged them, which was \$10,000, when the nearest outside bid was \$21,000," Foster said. He pointed out that Hemmingson successfully reduced the costs of the benefit by nearly \$20,000—from \$53,000 to \$33,000—and this achievement kept the event from losing money.

Ross and McBride also received some expenses from the event. Ross' newspaper, the *Bay Area Reporter*, received \$1,200 for three half-page ads. Ross said he personally bought two more ads—a half-page and a full-page—and also helped raise

\$10,000 in "seed money" from lenders early on, to provide a cash-flow for the circus. The seed money has been repaid.

McBride said her graphics firm in Cole Valley, Artspec, billed the event for more than \$400 worth of work, but that an equal amount was donated.

THE BIG PICTURE

Jim Foster is a big-league power broker and fundraiser, as well as being recognized as a pioneering leader in the gay community of San Francisco. His modest office in the inner Sunset District is covered with autographed photos of the liberal heroes of the past 15 years: Ted Kennedy, George McGovern, George Moscone. All of them have called on Foster for cash and clout and many political hopefuls still do.

The final fallout of the circus fiasco was Foster's withdrawal as a fundraising consultant for the AIDS Foundation. It was a relationship which began with promise in January, but soured by summer.

Foster's plan was to create a comprehensive strategy for philanthropy to fight AIDS, and use it as a model to develop philanthropy for other gay needs and institutions. He initiated a variety of projects: a direct-mail appeal from Armistead Maupin, a telephone appeal, approaches to major local foundations, and appeals to large corporations.

The central piece of the strategy was the circus fundraiser, and it was designed to do more than raise money. "The circus was planned with some other big goals in mind," said Tim Wolffred, executive director of the AIDS Foundation. "We were looking for some positive PR and exposure, and with that, it was successful."

But with few exceptions, other

parts of the fundraising plan haven't been any more encouraging than the circus. In a 27-page report to the AIDS Foundation, Foster chronicled efforts to get local "big money" into the effort to fight AIDS. It is an effort which, so far, has had no notable success.

On June 24, Foster met with Ed Nathan, executive director of the Zellerbach Family Fund—one of San Francisco's wealthiest and most influential foundations. In a subsequent report, Foster said Nathan was discouraging.

Nathan "was not optimistic that private foundations or corporations were ready to join in any effort around the AIDS epidemic," Foster reported.

John May, former executive director of the San Francisco Foundation, acknowledged the same point. May "felt that local foundations were not doing enough and agreed that the perception of the disease as 'gay epidemic' was getting in the way of obtaining resources," Foster wrote in his report.

THE RELUCTANT RICH

The AIDS Foundation hasn't given up on the local philanthropy establishment yet. This fall, the Foundation hopes to sponsor a conference for the big money charities to educate them on AIDS—and try to persuade them to do their part in fighting the epidemic.

Equally elusive are the big money people—the wealthy with money to give and the desire to give it. Even the gay rich don't want to contribute to gay-related causes, Foster said.

"An unfortunate fact of life is that many potential major donors do not want to give money to gay identified organizations," Foster wrote in his report.

Some cities are overcoming

those problems—or have a start in doing so. New York and Los Angeles both are breaking new ground in raising big money for AIDS.

In New York in May, some of society's wealthiest and most influential leaders packed the Schubert Theatre for the "Comic Relief" benefit. Joan Rivers, Phil Donahue and Steve Martin starred, and more than \$500,000 was raised—at \$250 to \$500 per ticket.

Just two months later, another \$200,000 was raised at a star-studded benefit on the Long Island resort of Fire Island.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, \$600,000 was raised in a July walk-a-thon that had movie and television celebrities led by Shirley MacLaine publicly associating themselves with the fight against AIDS.

And tonight in Los Angeles, a benefit at the Century Plaza Hotel is already sold out—and has already netted more than \$1 million for the L.A. AIDS Project.

But it is clear that in San Francisco, the formula has yet to be found that will generate any substantial private funds to fight AIDS.

This year's budget for the AIDS Foundation is set at \$1.9 million, and only 20 percent of that will come from private donations. Most is "small money"—\$10 to \$20 pledges to the April bike-a-thon, for example, which netted \$30,000 in total; or \$25 and \$50 tickets to a Lily Tomlin show which netted \$30,000 total in June.

While the AIDS epidemic grows—and while fundraisers try to find the way to involve big money in the fight—groups such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation will remain dependent upon city, state and federal support.

B. Jones

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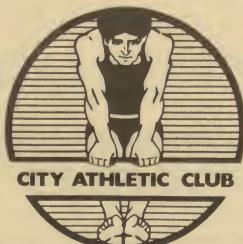
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THIS

FRIDAY 20

- **Night Sweat:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 16th & Mission Sts., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8-\$12. Robert Chesley's controversial and startling investigation of the value of life and love amidst fear of death. Reservations at 861-5079.
- **Hysterical Women at the Rose:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Host Marga Gomez welcomes comedienne Laurie Bushman and Sandra Loyd.
- **Mixed Doubles:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Karen Ripley and Danny Williams perform.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM.
- **Buns Contest:** Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., 6 PM.
- **Pamela Erickson:** comedy, Buckley's Bistro and Bar, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6 cover, \$4 dinner guest cover.
- **Please Wait for the Beep:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Thinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. A lesbian comedy by Margery Kreitman, directed by Patricia Keaney.
- **Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean:** stage performance, River Repertory Theater at Jenner Playhouse (behind gas station and store) on the coast, Hwy. 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, 8 PM, \$5. For information, call (707) 865-2905.
- **Acupuncture Free Clinic:** for persons with AIDS and their Gay families. By appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for information.
- **Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.



The Plutonium Players will present the Ladies Against Women in a consciousness-lowering session Tuesday at the Great American Music Hall (Photo: Rink)

- **Mikio:** music, Buckley's Bistro and Bar, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6 cover, \$4 dinner guest cover.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** hike with Milo Jarvis to Mount Tam. Meet at 9 AM at the Safeway parking lot, Market and Church Sts. For more information, call 863-2842.
- **A Bird Affaire:** bird show (See Saturday for more details).
- **Beer Bash:** benefit, S.F. Eagle, 12th and Harrison Sts., 3 PM. Call 668-3115 for more information.
- **South of Market Art Deco Hike:** building tour. Meet in front of the Western Merchandise Mart, Market and 9th Sts., 10 AM, 2 PM. \$3.50 general admission, \$2 for members of the Art Deco Society.
- **Please Wait for the Beep:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Holy Trinity Group:** church services, The Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keys St., San Jose, 10 AM.
- **Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Different Spokes:** Decide and Ride, meet in Golden Gate Park at McLaren Lodge at 10 AM and decide destination. For more information, call Bob at 282-3032.
- **Affirmation:** Lesbian and Gay Mormons, meets at 7 PM in San Francisco. Call 641-0791 for more information.
- **Gay Volleyball:** pick-up games, Potrero Hill Jr. High School, 19th and Deharo, S.F., 11 AM to 2 PM.
- **Le Jazz Hot:** cabaret, The Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., 9 & 11 PM, \$1. Join MC's Consuelo del Rio and Tommi Rose every Sunday for a classy show featuring S.F.'s finest female impersonators.
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- **Gentle Breeze:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 PM, Brazilian music.

MONDAY 23

- **Group Sax:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8 PM.



Vance George, director of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, will conduct the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the Seattle Men's Chorus in a performance of Richard Strauss' 'Die Tageszeiten' at Davies Hall Sept. 22 at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY 22

- **Night Sweat:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Bellydance and Beyond:** dance (See Saturday for details).
- **Folsom II: Attack of the Street Faire:** Folsom St. Fair on Folsom St. between 7th and 11th sts., 11 AM.
- **Different Spokes:** Eastbay Decide and Ride. Meet at Rickridge BART at 10:30 AM. For more information, call 647-4135.
- **Different Spokes:** Calistoga ride. Meet at Redwood Plaza in Napa at 10 AM. For more information, call 282-3032.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** 1 to 5-milerun, 10 AM. Meet at the fountain at the foot of Market St.
- **Dignity/San Francisco:** Annual picnic at Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Marin County, 10 AM. Car pools will be arranged. For more information, call 584-1714.

WEEK

- Steve Silberman and Paul Totah: poetry reading, Modern Times Bookstore, 998 Valencia St., 7:30 PM, \$3 general admission, \$2 for Modern Times members. A benefit for the S.F. Hospice/AIDS Home Care Project and CRECE, a Central American refugee organization.
- Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean: stage performance (see Friday for details).
- AIDS Writing Project: writing workshop for people with AIDS, 3 to 5 PM. Call 861-2385 for more information.
- Playwrighting for Women: taught by Terry Baum, call 641-7729 for more information.
- Gay Comedy Open Mike: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up, 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY 24

- Cindy Herron: cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6 PM, 8 PM.
- The Plutonium Players in Ladies Against Women: stage, The Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8.
- Fashion Show for Men and Women: Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., 8 PM.
- Temescal Gay Men's Chorus: rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana (Durant) St., Berkeley. Call 465-7388 or 655-3825 for more details.
- Lesbian/Gay Legal Office Workers: meeting, 220 Bush St., 21st Floor Conference Room, 5:30 PM. For more details, call 772-6749.



- Radical Women: meeting and dinner, 6:45 PM, 523-A Valencia St., S.F., On Women and Revolution, by Crystal Eastham, reviewed by Roanne Hindin. For more information, call 864-1278.
- AIDS: Chapter One: television on KQED, Channel 9, 9 PM. NOVA explores AIDS, what causes it and what modern science is trying to do to solve it.
- The Bald Soprano: stage performance by The Floor Players, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. Eugene Ionesco's classic irreverent anti-play parodies three strange couples, ranging from the bizarre to the controversial. Reservations at 863-3863.
- Slightly Older Lesbians: social and discussion group, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM. The discussion topic is Sexuality and Aging.
- Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean: stage performance (see Friday for details).
- Lisa Pawlak: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- Gay International Folk Dancing: for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7-7:30 PM, request dancing 7:30-9:30 PM, \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 552-8413 for details.
- Meditation and Healing Circle: let go of the past and experience the peaceful core of who you are, 7:30 PM, free. Call 864-5483 for information.
- Gay Freedom Day Marching Band: practice, every Tuesday, Gresham Hall, Grace Cathedral, S.F., 7:15 PM. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- Playwriting Workshop: 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 25

- The Bald Soprano: stage performance (See Tuesday for details).
- Sappron Obois and Julie Homi: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM.
- Madeleine and the Rough Cuts: music, Baybrick Inn,

1190 Folsom St., 9 PM. Dancing with DJ. Scooter will follow the Rough Cuts' show.

- Cindy Herron: cabaret, Sutter's Mill (See Tuesday for more details).
- San Francisco AIDS Foundation: open community meeting, Swedish American Hall, 2175 Market St., S.F., 8 PM. A panel of experts will answer questions about AIDS such as the pros/cons of the AIDS antibody test, the legal issues, who should take the test and test procedures and results.
- Joseph Taro presents "Songs and Laughter": cabaret, Buckley's Bistro and Bar, 131 Gough St., S.F., \$6 cover, \$4 for dinner guest cover.
- Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean: stage performance (see Friday for details).
- Gay Open Mike Singing: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM. With piano accompanist Magdelene Luecke.
- Beginning Yoga: Yoga class, 6:30 PM. Rob Villacari conducts Yoga classes, Iyengar-style, emphasizing alignment, breathing and guided relaxation. All are welcome. Free for PWA. For more information, call 864-1141.
- Kitty Margolis: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM.
- Female to Male Transsexuals: support group, Billy De Frank Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM.
- San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus: rehearsal, All



Try one of the **BEST** Gay Leagues in San Francisco

Monday Community League

The league bowls on Mondays at 8:45 p.m. THIS IS THE OLDEST GAY BOWLING LEAGUE IN S.F. Cost of bowling is \$8.00 per week, and the league will start on October 14th, 5 bowlers to a team.

Bonanza 300 League

The league bowls on Mondays at 8:45 p.m. EVERY MEMBER OF THIS LEAGUE WILL RECEIVE A BONANZA 300 BOWLING BALL, BOWLING SHOES AND A BOWLING BAG AT NO EXTRA COST. EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED IN LEAGUE FEES. Cost is \$9.00 per week. League will start on September 23rd, 5 bowlers to a team.

Tuesday Community League

The league bowls on Tuesdays at 8:45 p.m. THIS IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING GAY LEAGUES IN THE CITY. Cost of bowling is \$8.00 per week. League starts bowling on October 8th, 5 bowlers to a team.

Community Scratch League

The league bowls on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. THIS LEAGUE IS FOR THE MORE SERIOUS MINDED BOWLER. THERE IS NO HANDICAP, BUT AS LONG AS YOU HAVE AN AVERAGE FROM ANOTHER LEAGUE, NO MATTER WHAT THE AVERAGE IS, YOU CAN BOWL IN THIS LEAGUE. Cost is \$10.00 per week. Starts September 23rd, 5 bowlers to a team.

Wednesday Community League

The league bowls on Wednesdays at 8:45 p.m., THE WEEK'S MOST POPULAR DAY FOR BOWLING. THIS LEAGUE FILLS FAST. Cost of bowling is \$7.50 per week. Starts October 9th, 5 to a team.

Thursday AFTERNOON Community League

The league bowls on Thursday AFTERNOONS at 1:00 p.m., THE ONLY WEEKDAY LEAGUE IN S.F. Cost of bowling is \$5.50 per week. Starts on October 10th, 3 bowlers to a team.

Mexico Vacation League

The league bowls on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. HERE'S A LEAGUE WHERE YOU GET A TRIP TO MEXICO AT THE END OF THE SEASON (trip will be in June of 1986). MEXICO TRIP IS INCLUDED IN YOUR LEAGUE FEES. There is nothing extra to pay. Cost of bowling is \$17.50 per week (includes trip to Mexico). Starts on September 6th, 4 bowlers to a team.

Sunday Reno League

The league bowls on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. IN THIS LEAGUE, EVERYONE GOES TO RENO AT SEASON'S END (Reno trip is in May). COST OF THE RENO TRIP IS INCLUDED IN LEAGUE FEES. Cost of bowling is \$10.00 per week. Starts on October 13th, 4 to a team.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN EXPERIENCED BOWLER TO JOIN ONE OF THESE LEAGUES - THE EMPHASIS IS ON FUN!

FOR INDIVIDUAL & TEAM SIGN-UPS CONTACT:

Terry Kaplan at JAPANTOWN BOWL 921-6200

THURSDAY 26

- Egomaniacs: music and comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, S.F., 8 PM, \$6. A return engagement by former members of the acclaimed comedy group, Hot Flashes.
- Tuffy Eldridge: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM.
- Cindy Herron: cabaret, (See Tuesday for more details).
- Sharon McNight: music, The Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8.
- Aldo Bell and Carmelita Herron: cabaret, Buckley's Bistro and Bar, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6 cover, \$4 dinner guest cover.
- Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers: meeting, 7:30 PM. Call 821-4531 for more details.
- Men's Support Group: rap session, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM.
- Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean: stage performance (see Friday for details).
- Western Star Dancers: beginners square dance class, YWCA, 620 Sutter, S.F., 7:15 PM. Call 864-6134 for details.
- Yoga and Meditation Class: for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays. This Week compiled by Will Snyder.

BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FILM

Four Chapters

Running 'Mishima' Through the Mill Valley Film Festival

by Steve Warren

One of the year's major gay-interest films, Paul Schrader's *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters*, has its Bay Area premiere Sunday at the Mill Valley Film Festival before starting a regular run at the Castro next week.

The festival is fortuitously timed to catch some important films that have been found on Hollywood shelves behind the teenage scientist fare and are being dusted off for fall release. The studios don't mind giving festival audiences first crack at the likes of *Plenty*, *Agnes of God*, *Mishima*, *Joshua Then and Now*, *The Journey of Natty Gann*, and *Jagged Edge*.

About 80 percent of the films and virtually all of the videos are in English, including a Salute to the Cinema of New Zealand. A number are documentaries, but the overall thrust is more commercial and less esoteric than the San Francisco International Film Festival—you'll search in vain for the latest work from Upper Volta.

Many area filmmakers, mostly from Marin, are somehow involved in the production or distribution of festival offerings. Although *Mishima* was made in Japan with a Japanese cast speaking their native tongue, its executive producers are George Lucas and Francis Ford Coppola, and co-producer is Tom Luddy, locals all.

Assuming that you know nothing about Yukio Mishima, whose reputation as an author was almost eclipsed by his personal celebrity and notoriety, Paul Schrader admits you'll leave his film with some misconceptions.

"For one thing," the director co-writer told us in an exclusive interview, "Ken Ogata (who plays Mishima) is more of a heman. Mishima was shorter and more androgynous with more of

a snake-like charm. Mishima wanted to be a he-man. I'm sure he would have approved (of the casting)."

There are two other areas where Schrader doesn't feel the film tells the whole story: "You don't really get a sense of how scandalous (Mishima) was in Japan. He brought his wife more places than the average Japanese man would, to keep up his (image). He loved masks, he loved the idea that he was a 'family man.' And yet he would also do these things that were outrageously gay—like that photo album."

Also, Mishima's "sexual side, both in the gay world and with his family, is not there (on the screen)," Schrader says.

The last aspect of the film has a long and painful history. The legal maneuvering with Mishima



Snow Bikini — Ken Ogata recreates a classic samurai pose of Yukio Mishima in *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters*.

ma's widow, Yoko, lasted more than two years, and she ultimately felt betrayed and withdrew her support from the film.

"From the beginning my understanding with her was somewhat clouded," Schrader says. "The widow was real surprised to find any references to her husband's homosexuality, even with the scene with St. Sebastian (whose portrait serves as J/O material for the 12-year-old Mishima) and the gay bar."

While Mishima's homosexuality was, Schrader believes, "more important than the film presents it, I don't think he was that sexual a man, really. It was more in his writing than his life. He was a talker, not a doer."

Mishima apparently never had a serious gay relationship. Some say Masakatsu Morita, the student in his private army

with whom he committed ritual suicide in 1970, was his lover, but Schrader questions this.

"The two other people who knew Mishima at that time think Mishima was infatuated with the boy and that something may have happened in the last couple of weeks (of their lives)."

"Donald Richie, on the other hand, doesn't think anything ever happened between them because of Mishima's fetish of the purity of the army." Because the suicide was intended as "his final artistic statement," Schrader doesn't think Mishima would have allowed romance to diminish the political nature of his act, "the harmony of pen and sword. It certainly wasn't a *shinju* (lovers' suicide)," he says.

Despite the direct pressure from Mishima's widow and the "passive resistance" of the

Japanese government, Schrader doesn't feel the film he set out to make was compromised: "I just spent two years working for nothing, and I'm not going to do that if I have to compromise myself."

The idea of a movie about Mishima first occurred to Schrader in 1974 after his older brother Leonard, who lived in Japan for five years, introduced him to the author's work. The Schraders would eventually collaborate on the screenplay, and Leonard would script 1985's other major mainstream gay-themed film, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*.

Considering *Mishima*'s long period of gestation, its complex and radical scheme, and the fact that it's the first American-directed film in Japanese, it's

(Continued on next page)

BOOK RACK



Yukio Mishima and the zodiac from *Ordeal by Roses*: *Photographs of Yukio Mishima* by Eikoh Hosoe

See With Your Heart

Ordeal by Roses: Photographs of Yukio Mishima
by Eikoh Hosoe
Aperture: \$35

by Mark I. Chester

In a nod to consumer marketing for the intelligentsia, Aperture is publishing *Ordeal by Roses*, a new edition of a collection of photographs of Yukio Mishima taken by Japanese photographer Eikoh Hosoe, to coincide with Paul Schrader's new movie *Mishima*. This eclectic set of portraits, taken during 1961 and 1962, were first published in book form in Japan in 1963.

It is a compelling project historically because Mishima and Hosoe are two of the most widely known Japanese artists throughout the world, in writing and photography, respectively. Mishima was a prolific artist with novels, plays, short stories, poetry, and essays to his credit. In addition, he was an actor, on stage and on the screen, a movie director, and a believer in the cult of the body. Hosoe was only 28 when he photographed Mishima, but since has become known for a few series of photographs that are highly emotionally charged, sensually erotic, dreamlike, and mythical. Many are recognizable by the sharp whites, moody shadows, and pointillistic

grain. Hosoe's photographs are not representational. Unlike photographers like Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, who showed us how to "see" with our eyes, Hosoe shows us how to "see" with our hearts.

An artist's work should stand completely on its own, but there are some artists whose lives and actions are inextricably intertwined with the work they do. This is especially true of Yukio Mishima. A second edition of *Ordeal by Roses*, jointly prepared by Hosoe and Mishima, was planned for release in November 1970. Mishima apparently intended (without Hosoe's knowledge) for the publication of the book to coincide with his ritual suicide.

Hosoe delayed the book's publication, as he states in this edition's afterword, because "... the photographs from (*Ordeal by Roses*) had no direct relationship to his suicide ... The honor of Mishima and also the integrity of photography had to be protected." But that is easier said than done. Even this edition's publisher, Aperture, cannot separate the two. On the

jacket cover, a removable banner proclaims that *Ordeal by Roses* "... morbid climax is a prophecy of the writer's ritual suicide which stunned the world in 1970." It is a declaration more worthy of a cheap tabloid than the foremost publisher of photography as art.

Self-destructive artists become myth, whether their destruction is long and drawn out, like Poe or Fitzgerald, or sharp and sudden like Hemingway, Plath, or Arbus. They have in common a deep depression and a desire not to live. Mishima's suicide, at the height of his career and popularity, on the other hand, was a statement, a challenge, to a Japan caught in change between its past traditions and sudden lurches into the future; caught between an Eastern way of life and an increasing Western influence.

But for Mishima the crossroads were even greater; caught in the erotic crossfire between traditional marriage and family and a love of men. In his 1949 autobiographical novel *Confessions of a Mask*, he notes the

(Continued on page 26)

Death Imitates Art

by Steve Warren

Some say gay Japanese author Yukio Mishima spent his whole life preparing for his death. If so, it's not disproportionate for Paul Schrader, the director and co-writer (with his brother Leonard, who scripted *Kiss of the Spider Woman*), to devote more than half of *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters* to the literal and literary events leading directly to Mishima's death by *seppuku* (ritual suicide) on Nov. 25, 1970.

The film is structurally complex but not as difficult to watch as it may sound in synopsis. The content, however, is a mind full, especially if you see it with no foreknowledge. Many of Mishima's personal characteristics are revealed through staged excerpts from three partially autobiographical novels which are interwoven with flashbacks from the fatal day. His wife and two children are briefly referred to but never seen; and Masakatsu Morita, the protege and probable lover with whom he committed suicide, is merely shown as one of the guys.

At the age of 12 Mishima masturbates for the first time—to a portrait of the martyred St. Sebastian, a pose he will recreate one day for a photograph. In *Temple of the Gold Pavilion* we see him as a man so obsessed with beauty he has to destroy it.

His bodybuilding phase is shown in *Kyoko's House*, which expresses the "looksist" philosophy, "Creating a beautiful work of art and becoming beautiful oneself are identical." Mishima further comments, "When he looks in a mirror, the homosexual, like the actor, sees what he fears most—the decay of the body." Later he says that because men are living longer today, "Heaven must be ugly." The episode contains the portentous "You must commit suicide at the height of your beauty."

From then on everything points toward the final act, that erotic instant of death he calls "The Harmony of Pen and Sword." It's in the book *Runaway Horses* and the film *Patriotism*, which Mishima writes and stars in. It's fulfilled through his plan to organize and train a private army, the Shield Society, to revive militarism and restore the emperor's power.

The Schraders obviously had such a wealth of material to work from that the most they could hope to accomplish in a two-hour film was, like the dominatrix of *Kyoko's House*, who cuts up the narcissistic actor representing Mishima, to scratch a very interesting surface. This they have done well, so that even when things bog down in the militarism that may obsess the director as much as his subject, the variety of visual styles keeps things from palling.

Mishima is an interesting blend of its Eastern and Western influences. The dialogue is in Japanese, except for Roy Scheider's voiceover narration, but the Asian actors work in a manner nearer American naturalism than the frequently stylized and overwrought Japanese histrionics.

Not the best picture of the year but a unique and often fascinating one, the deservedly controversial *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters* will heighten global awareness of Yukio Mishima, one from "Column Gay."

(Castro, Sept. 27)

Mishima

(Continued from previous page)

surprising the end result differs little from Schrader's original conception: "It didn't change much from the time I really started thinking about how to structure it."

He makes the process sound quite natural. "I knew I had to get into the books," he says, pointing out that in movies about other kinds of creative artists you can merely show their paintings or sing their songs. By staging portions of three novels he found he could illuminate aspects of Mishima's character, including his homosexuality, without attributing them directly to him. The focus of the film would be on "the grand theater of his last day"—when Mishima, Morita, and three other cadets from the *Tatenokai* (Shield Society), as the author's private army was known, captured a general so Mishima could address the troops at Eastern Army Headquarters in Tokyo before killing himself in the general's office. Flashbacks from that day would be in black and white.

Schrader has a reputation as a homophobe, which *Mishima* may help correct. It comes, he says, from two gay writers pick-



Yukio Mishima (Ken Ogata) addresses Japanese troops on the last day of his life in *Mishima*

ing on the fact that the most despicable characters in *American Gigolo* were gay. He laughs about it now and blames it on "the political atmosphere of the times."

One line in *Mishima* could make the writer-director even more unpopular in Japan, if the film is ever released there. In a scene from the novel *Kyoko's House*, the narcissistic character

who represents the author remarks, obviously flattered, "Somebody said my ass looked like that of a foreign sailor's." Schrader makes no bones about the national inferiority complex this addresses: "All advertising in Japan is with white models."

The country has other things to be proud of, however. Despite the sensitivity of Mishima's widow to publicizing her hus-

band's homosexuality, Schrader says Japan is more liberal than the U.S. in that area.

"Japan is a far more pansexual culture than ours. It's far more common for schoolboys to have homosexual encounters there than here—I don't know about Britain. I have a good number of friends who have moved to Japan for that reason.

(Continued on next page)

THE P.S. TIMES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1985
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ORIGINAL AND POWERFUL.
—REX REED, NEW YORK POST

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

WILLIAM RAUL SONIA
HURT JULIA BRAGA

Ordeal

(Continued from page 24)

book with a quote from Dostoevski's *The Brothers Karamazov*: *Beauty is a terrible and awful thing! It is terrible because it never has and never can be fathomed, for God sets us nothing but riddles. Within beauty both shores meet and all contradictions exist side by side . . . Beauty! I cannot bear the thought that a man of noble heart and lofty mind sets out with the ideal of the Madonna and ends with the ideal of Sodom. What's still more awful is that the man with the ideal of Sodom in his soul does not renounce the ideal of the Madonna . . .*

It is exactly that ache—between old and new, between East and West, and between traditional love of family and personal love of men—that is reflected through *Ordeal by Roses* and ultimately Mishima's ritual suicide.

Portraiture is a conspiracy between photographer and subject. The resulting images are not just pictures of the subject, but psychological/emotional landscapes that reveal as much about the photographer as they do about the subject. The photographs that result in *Ordeal by Roses* are surreal, multi-layered images that are more pathways into a labyrinth with no exit than answers to questions.

In a preface to the book, Mishima describes his interaction with Hosoe, "The world to which I was abducted under the spell of his lens was abnormal, warped, sarcastic, grotesque, savage and promiscuous . . . yet there was a clear undercurrent of lyricism murmuring gently through its unseen conduits. *Ordeal by Roses* documents a confrontation between two artists of will. Mishima puts his body (and in some ways his soul) on the line while Hosoe sees the interaction as, "the destruction of a myth." Like clay, Hosoe cuts Mishima apart and puts him back together.

Using Mishima's body, his home environment and furnishings (such as an un-Japanese like garden zodiac and reproductions of renaissance paintings), as pieces of a puzzle to be used at will. Hosoe manipulates tonalities, visual clarity, camera perspective, and multiple images laid one on top of the other, until the viewer stops trying to order and understand the dreamlike chaos.

Japanese culture and way of life are so different from ours that the quality of some of the photography is difficult to judge. In retrospect, some 20-plus years later, a few of the pictures seem amateurish and a couple of others, based on 1960s photographic fads, appeared dated. On the whole, the images are complex, challenging, and offer an interesting perception of two iconoclastic artists.

But the photographs are also limited. Despite an overwhelming eroticism in many of the photographs, that eros is specifically male/female. As such the photographs provide a singular view of Mishima, one that fails to take into account a publicly known fact (Mishima's homoeroticism) that provided a pivot point for Mishima's life.

There is a sense of homoeroticism in a couple of photographs that focus solely on Mishima and his physical presence. The most compelling image, for me, is of Mishima in just Levis and sunglasses (shirtless and barefoot), holding a rose, layered over a reproduction of a renaissance painting of St. Sebastian. It speaks to the ache in Mishima's heart—his complexity, inner dreams, and turmoil.

M. I. Chester



Yukio Mishima, with clock, in *Ordeal by Roses*. Photographs of Yukio Mishima by Eikoh Hosoe

Mishima

(Continued from previous page)

Well, when I say 'a good number,' I mean three.

"Mishima's sin was not his homosexuality. It was his flamboyance and his arrogance."

Despite the shortcomings of *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters*, Paul Schrader is satisfied with it. He knew he could never tell the complete story of Yukio Mishima in two hours, but he believes he has achieved harmony of pen, sword, and camera.

OTHER MILL VALLEY OFFERINGS

The Assam Garden—Having been in India with her probably gay husband when British rule ended, newly widowed Deborah Kerr finds the sun also setting on the empire in England. Her one friend is a—gasp!—foreigner, an Indian woman (Madhur Jeffrey) from the—ugh!—housing development that's sprung up next to her country estate. Both women are extraordinary, and the first-feature direction of Mary McMurray is sensitive, deliberate, and perceptive, making this as gemlike as *The Jewel in the Crown*.

Canyon Consort—A sellout at this year's S.F. Festival, this hour-long documentary shows the Paul Winter Consort rafting through the Grand Canyon to capture sound to translate into a suite of eco-jazz. The music's easy to take, but the home-movie visuals offer too little canyon and too much consort.

Hot Blood—I remember getting off on Nicholas Ray's drama of American gypsies when I was too young to realize it was Cornel Wilde, not Jane Russell, who excited me. Or maybe it was the way they played with whips. It may look silly today, but I want to see it for old times' sake—and for Jane Rus-

sell's personal appearance.

The Journey of Natty Gann—Jeremy Kagan's brilliant evocation of Depression America overshadows a trite story for the *Nancy Drew* set about a teenager (bright newcomer Meredith Salenger) bumming from Chicago to Seattle in search of her father.

Las Days of the Victim—Adolfo Aristarain's Argentine thriller is light on thrills, the story of a hit man (Federico Luppi) so methodical it's like watching an accountant at work. There's some tits and ass and heavy breathing as he voyeuristically photographs his targets before dispatching them. The title reveals the final twist if you think about it, but if you think about it the whole story doesn't make much sense.

A Marvada Carne (That Damned Meat)—Charming bits of supernatural folklore add spice to an equally charming story of a man who moves from the wilderness to a village in search of beef to eat and "a woman to take care of me"; and a young woman who's been praying for a husband: "Just hand him over. I'll take care of taming the stud." A brilliant example of the kind of exotic that comes naturally to the Brazilians but is rare *Meat* for us.

Mississippi Blues—French director Bertrand Tavernier records his impressions of the American South, with co-director Robert Parrish, a Georgia native. The first hour dwells on black church music (covered better in *Say Amen, Somebody* and *Gospel*) and the relationship of religion to politics, before they finally discover some great old blues musicians. There are fascinating incidents, but not enough of them, and Tavernier's narration should be redone in English.

For Mill Valley Film Festival information, call 383-9053. ■

S. Warren

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If You Like This Sort of Thing

by Stephen Drewees

Roller Derby, *The Musical*, whose title sounds like an attempt to differentiate the show from *Roller Derby, the Board Game*, or possibly *Roller Derby, the Opera*, is an enormously cheerful show which is hard to dislike but impossible to admire. It is fast paced, literally, because it is performed largely on roller skates, percussive, a trifle shrill, and so gosh-darned earnest it is practically a patriotic assault.

The show is produced by Jerry Seltzer, whose father invented the game in 1939, and perhaps it is for this reason that the show has no sense of humor. There are lots of funny lines, mind you, but the book's central conceit demands we accept this now defunct and always quirky sport as a metaphor for the Great American Dream.

The final number in the second act, a sort of combination of "The Impossible Dream" and "And I Tell You I'm Not Going," from *Dreamgirls*, is performed in front of an immense American

flag and backed up by the chorus singing the national anthem—an hysterically funny moment of unconscious self parody. Although I'm sure it has dedicated fans out there, I'm afraid I found it next to impossible to get spiritual about *Roller Derby*. Imagine, if you will, a serious musical about professional wrestling, and you've got the picture.

The plot, an "All About Eve" of the sweatband and jockstrap set, takes place in 1965, a fact which is made much of by the off-stage announcer and ignored by the costume designers. It concerns the efforts of reigning Derby Queen Midge, winsomely played by Kelly Britt, to defend The Grail (shades of Sir Lancelot!) from newcomer Joy, also nicely played by Deborah Van Valkenburgh. Their respective boyfriends are played by Norman Smith and Michael Fontaine. The other teammates never really emerge as identifiable personalities, which is a shame because they seem to be a talented and, God knows, energetic bunch.



'Father' doesn't always know best in Rhinoceros' *Please Wait for the Beep* (Photo: E. Richards)

Burning Down the House

by Dianne Gregory

Laughter brought down the house last Friday at The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros when the rollicking lesbian comedy *Please Wait for the Beep* by Margery Kreitman made its premiere. I haven't heard people laugh so much since all my shirt buttons popped open in a 9th grade production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Ronnie Schrader (Kathy Burch) is having a crisis. She is filled with a nebulous angst because life is hard—life as a woman, life as a lesbian, just life. Her girlfriend Cindy (Sharon Kirk) is just about to give up on her because they haven't had sex for six months and Ronnie keeps avoiding any contact, retreating behind her answering machine, her vibrator, and her childhood memories. We all get that way from time to time, but seldom do we ride out life's crises with such hilarity.

Roughly half the play is set in Ronnie's present, while the other half is set in her past. Scenes where the young Ronnie (Jaymie Litsey) gets caught masturbating by her mother (Deborah Spector) and plays out a "Frank the taxi driver and his sweet, young pickup" fantasy with her friend Maxine mirror her mother's inconsistent phone calls and Maxine's visit to "Frisco" in the here and now. This is done effectively and smoothly through lighting and an otherwise unobtrusive stage-rear mini set. Suzy Berger as Maxine steals the show.

This play marks the Theatre Rhinoceros debut for four of the five actresses listed in the playbill, Suzy Berger, Kathy Burch, Sharon Kirk, and Jaymie Litsey. Judging from the performance I saw, it will not be their last. Kathy Burch as Ronnie is as funny and as pathetic as she needs to be to bring her character to vivid life. Sharon Kirk as Cindy is adequate if a bit tentative. Jaymie Litsey as the young Ronnie is wonderfully lascivious, and Deborah Spector, the only Rhino veteran in the cast, does the best Jewish Mother this side of the Adirondacks.

The direction, by Patricia Keane, is fast paced and glossy, just the right touch for a comedy. My only quibble is that the meeting between Ronnie and Cindy by the lake is much too stage forward to be seen by those in the back rows. The set is a perfect 1980s messy livingroom, with lampshades by Colonel Sanders and knick knacks by Round Table pizza. The costumes, especially those stretch pants worn by the young Ronnie and Maxine's Hayward housewife run amok ensemble, tell their own story.

So you want to laugh? Then get yourself down to Rhino so that you too can *Please Wait for the Beep*.

Please Wait for the Beep
Through Oct. 13
The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros;
861-5079



The gang's all here in *Roller Derby: The Musical*

The Bombers' number one opposing team, the Devils, is captained by a character named Martha, which is played by an actor in drag. I've scoured my program, but can't find the actor credited with this role, which is either a monumental error or an attempt to create a Mystery Personality. In any case, Martha is responsible for one of the two really memorable musical numbers, "Being Bad," which is the only number which is also interestingly choreographed.

The other good song is "Waikiki," which contains a wonderful patter section for Britt. The rest of the music is in the 1980s disco mode, with occasional

forays into the late 1950s by the mens chorus.

The choreography, by John Henry, is a major disappointment. I had expected something like the brilliant work John Curry has achieved on ice, which may be unfair because Curry has the likes of Twyla Tharp in his camp. But the dancing in *Roller Derby* consists mainly of knee bends, elbow jabs, and closed-fist salutes. I think the intention was to duplicate the actual moves involved in the game, but the result lacks variety and grace. These dancers certainly are *fast*, though.

Set designers Gene Angell and Ron Pratt have built the stage at

the Theatre on the Square to include forward ramps along which the skaters whiz with the speed of summer lightning. The show is effectively, if somewhat busily, lit by Neil Peter Jampolis, who pulls out every trick in the book.

It's a pity *Roller Derby* wasn't produced 15 years ago, when the game was a visible part of the sports scene. As it is, it strikes me as an idea whose time came and went quite some time ago. On the other hand, to paraphrase Miss Jean Brodie, for those of you who like this sort of thing, this is the sort of thing you will like. ■

Roller Derby: The Musical
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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Sisters Under the Skin

GEORGE HEYMONT

For some odd reason, sister acts always seem to get a huge round of applause from the audience. Whether the music involves a trio of dance-hall hostesses pleading that "There's Got To Be Something Better Than This" in Cy Coleman's *Sweet Charity* or the bouncy bel canto tunes heard in the "Mira o Norma" duet from Bellini's *Norma*, people go nuts over any dramatic situation where women fight back against the external forces or men which always seem to oppress them. Sometimes these moments of song are rapturous. The music shared by Lakme and Mallika in the first act of Delibes' *Lakme* and the exquisite trio in the last act of Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* instantly come to mind. On other occasions such music might even sound mournful, as in the poignant "Why Did We Ever Leave Ohio?"—a sad and lyrical duet

shared by Ruth and Eileen in Leonard Bernstein's *Wonderful Town*.

Every once in a while the lyrics take on an acid, biting quality (the "Bosom Buddies" duet from Jerry Herman's *Mame*). And there are moments when true love and powerful music can conquer bitter hatred (*West Side Story*'s "A Boy Like That, Who'd Kill Your Brother"). One way or another, a powerful force is on hand, working to unite sisterly souls. That force is a combination of music and words—opera/musical theater—if you will. And, like Mae West, when it's good it's very good. And sometimes, even when it's bad, it's still pretty good.

LESS THAN AMAZING GRACE

A perfect case in point would be the Grace Bumbry/Shirley Verrett concert held at the War Memorial Opera House last month. While this traveling sister



Despina (Monique Brynnel) gives Dorabella (Margaret Russell) and Fiordiligi (Joan Carden) some worldly advice in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

act may have sounded like a potentially exciting evening on paper, the event—in reality—had some noticeable ups and downs. Lord knows, the audience was hyped and receptive. And the program was a collection of proven winners: duets from Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*, Bellini's *Norma*, Donizetti's *Anna Bolena* and Verdi's *Aida*, with strong solo selections for each woman. Yet, rather than enjoying an ethereal blending of great artistry, audiences witnessed a growing disparity in truth, talent, and artistic values.

Both of these women possess an inordinate amount of personal charisma—the kind of dramatic magnetism which is becoming all too rare in the opera world. Both have built controversial careers by moving from mezzo-soprano up to soprano roles. Each delivers the kind of big sound which can fill an auditorium with ease and bring goose bumps to a listener's skin. And by now, each woman has been around the block a few times and is no fool.

Grace Bumbry has always produced a rich, sultry sound which was creamy and sexual beyond belief. Yet, in recent years, as an artist, she has seemed increasingly lazy and disinterested in her work. While Bumbry's transition to the soprano repertoire has not hurt the lusty quality of her tone, it has not brought a great deal of excitement or dramatic involvement to her singing.

Verrett, who may have less vocal power, is a superior artist—a woman of extreme intelligence and uncanny musicianship. Although her new repertoire, while solidly sung, seems to have taken some of the sheen off her previous sound, Shirley wisely compensates for any loss in timbre by throwing every ounce of her formidable interpretive skills behind the music she chooses to sing.

What happened onstage? Each woman's strengths and weaknesses became magnified by the occasion, transforming one into a champ and the other into a tramp. Verrett poured her heart and soul into Lady Macbeth's "Veni, t'affretta" and Desdemona's "Willow Song" whereas Bumbry "got through" Adriana Lecouvreur's "Io son l'umile ancilla" and Elvira's "Ernani involami!"

Although both women did some fierce swooping when attacking a new phrase, Shirley approached her music with a profound artistic commitment bordering on vengeance. Grace spent a good deal of the evening fussing with her hair, mopping sweat off her cleavage, rolling her

eyes around in bored exasperation and, to all intents and purposes, telling the audience she would much rather be back in her dressing room watching *The Search for Tomorrow* or *Wheel of Fortune*.

In essence, Verrett emerged as a thoroughly committed, fiercely intelligent artist while Bumbry appeared to be a functional and often sloppy singer who looked like she wanted to pick up her check and go home. The audience didn't have much trouble noticing the difference.

WOMEN ARE LIKE THAT

In any case, fickle is as fickle does, and every woman has the right to change her mind. Since it was first performed in 1790, Mozart's *Così fan tutte* has become a model lesson for young male pups who don't know fidelity runs skin deep and that what's good for the goose is good for the gander. While in Australia I had a chance to see John Copley's production of *Così fan tutte* performed by the Australian Opera at the Sydney Opera House. With sets by Peter Cooke and costumes by Michael Stennett, the visual package was quite pretty to look at. Neatly, concisely, and efficiently staged, the evening nevertheless lacked dramatic fire. Although I was beginning to experience jet lag from my 16-hour flight across the Pacific, I was alert enough to sense Richard Bonynge's tendency to conduct Mozart's opera at half speed didn't help matters at all.

This production of *Così* featured a mostly Australian cast, with Joan Carden as Fiordiligi, Margaret Russell as Dorabella, John Fulford as Guglielmo, and Glenn Winslade as Ferrando. I found Russell particularly appealing; her tall, proud stature a dramatically forceful presence and her lush mezzo-soprano a powerful turn-on. Carden, a popular Australian artist who occasionally tends to sound shrill, was less impressive. The men were good ensemble singers, although neither really caught my imagination. Geoffrey Chard's Don Alfonso was a dutifully wry characterization.

The strangest contribution to the evening came from Monique Brynnel as Despina. Brynnel's diction made her sound as if she were sampling a smorgasbord of accents ranging from her native Swedish to German, Moroccan, and other exotic tongues. Although her stage savvy helped liven up the proceedings immensely, her diction proved to be absolutely mind-boggling. But women are like that. *Così fan tutte!*

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EVEN IN BABYLON



Dull Dazzle

I can understand roller derby. I mean, the Romans were on to some of mankind's most basic tastes when they devised their coliseum games. But the Romans didn't expect the Christians and the lions to sing, or the gladiators to prance before pulverizing. Some activities, unless treated with creative ingenuity, resist musicalization. The basic problem with *Roller Derby*, the new musical now skating rapidly in circles at the

enjoy several of the songs, the choreography, and the attractive and excessively talented cast. I could even consider returning to the show myself to eyeball once again the physical delights of Mark Beach as "Vinnie." Here's a chorus boy whose butch routine is so butch he can parody it and seem even butcher! But I'll have to wait for my brain to firm up from my first visit. *Roller Derby*, all hardness and speed on the outside, is all mush within.

'The safe-sex flag is the checkerboard print, while the colors are otherwise traditional.'

Theatre on the Square, is that however much it exploits stage trickery to get a depiction of roller derby on stage, it ultimately can't. So the athletic exhilaration, hokey fights, and gory accidents of the real thing are here abstracted into cartoon, the stylized and staged "sport" or roller derby stylized one more step. In reaching for a realistic depiction, *RD* reveals its falsity. That is further compounded by cardboard characters and a cliché story.

Even to someone who takes the musical form as seriously as I do, it was clear from the onset of *RD* that the only valid approach was to suspend the critical eye and enjoy myself. Where *RD*'s lack of stylistic unity and crudity of content and execution defied critical analysis, the very excesses of the show's subject matter make it, like the Roman games, an audience pleaser. So while I applauded the brilliant performance of Kelly Britt in the lead role, the audience cheered a patriotic finale in which an American flag covered the back of the stage while the cast led us in a clap-a-long. I'm surprised they didn't throw in mom and apple pie, too.

But what good is all the dazzle of *RD*'s surface—the blinding strobe lights, the deafening sound effects that surround the hall, the thrill of actors hurtling across a specially constructed race track in front of the stage—when its story is so stupid? The indignities one must endure for a few meager novelties of staging! So they roller skate on stage. Big deal. Don't look now, but they're doing the Turkey Trot.

If you can suffer such witless entertainment (to impress his girl, the hero sings of his home in working class patois, "It's just a trailer in Oakland . . ."), you will

Art Attack Auction

Donated art works of every type, style, and form are needed for the Art Attack Auction to take place at the Wreck Room, 2513 Broadway, Sacramento, CA, Nov. 23, to help benefit AIDS research. Hours will be from 3 to 10 p.m.

Artists, galleries, collectors, and individuals that have art they can donate are being asked to help. Paintings, sketches, sculpture, photos, and crafts of every variety are being accepted.

Donated articles may be sent or hand delivered to the Wreck Room before Nov. 9, where items will be on display for two weeks until the 23rd. It will be a "silent auction."

The Attack itself will consist of a large work of art on canvas to be

Much like *Roller Derby*, many of the elements of the current Theatre Rhinoceros production, *Night Sweat*, elicit strong response. The show, which closes its extended run Sunday, Sept. 22, has toned down some of the play's provocative elements, but one scene in particular provokes the same response regularly. In it, to great comic effect, a wealthy businessman is tortured into confessing his sins—he's pursued masculinity (being neither fat nor femme), has never let love get in the way of his material pursuits, and has achieved the American dream of success in excess. The audience howls in laughter at the satire, only to fall silent when he announces his fatal flaw: he's a faggot. ■

Night after night, the shared understanding of this moment stuns the audience, stings them into silence with the shared pain of a guilt that should not be theirs . . . and maybe assuages and heals a part of that pain. I hadn't previously thought that faggot-guilt was so strong, so universal. Or maybe I was just blocking it out, only to be slapped with it at this revealing moment of *Night Sweat*.

Last week a letter to the editor called for the creation of a safe-sex symbol similar to the key and hanky codes that announce sexual preference. Such a safe-sex code has existed for more than a year, but few were ready to pay attention to it when it appeared. The Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights created and marketed a checkerboard hanky in several colors, allowing us to replace old symbols with new ones. The safe-sex flag is the checkerboard print, while the

colors are otherwise traditional. Even a year ago, stores were wary of presenting safe-sex merchandise to their customers; it seemed a downer, it took courage. When first presented, retailers resisted the handkerchiefs, and Alan Selby's Mr. S. leather shop is the only store I know of which currently sells them. So pick one up and spread the new code. Let people know you're into lifegiving sex.

★ ★ ★

The Stud Store, on Folsom near 6th Street, has new owners, new merchandise, and lots of video for rent. Best of all, the store is open until 4 a.m. for those late-night needs. The rental rates are low, too. Check it out.

Buckley's Bistro also has a new owner and is open again after a fore-to-aft remodeling. The new owner is Ira Cohen, who learned the trade as a part owner of Scott's. I've heard good reports on the lunch, brunch, and dinners being served, but the best report is that Buckley's entertainment policies have been maintained. That means Weslia Whitfield every Saturday night, and other favorites on weeknights—like Pam Brooks Sept. 19, Mikio Sept. 22, and Aldo Bell and Carmelita Herron Sept. 26. Look for Buckley's schedules.

Poet Thom Gunn will read from his works at the Walt Whitman Bookstore Sunday, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. Reservations, 861-3078. ■

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Not much slumbering going on at the Troc when Us Girls prove once again they can boogie too
(Photo: Rink)

Us Girls

Boogey to the Beat in Their Padded Feet

by Chiori Santiago

Rose was partying in her pjs. Pink ones, thick and fleecy, with feet in them. She brought along her teddy bear and Becky the Leopard Queen. She was a bit peevish she hadn't had time to take out her rollers and rat up her beehive; she'd also offered to play her Louie DiPrima record, the one with Vic Damon on the flip side, but the DJ favored Madonna, Prince, and the Tom Tom Club. Still, that didn't keep her from dancing hard enough to make the fleece fly. It was Thursday night at the Troc, and Us Girls was having a slumber party.

The emphasis definitely was on party. The dance floor was in motion, the back room was set up for games of Twister and Spin The Bottle. Those dressed for bedtime were in the minority, with flannel pajamas and robes the clear favorites. Every now and then a negligee floated by, and Elaine Tse, an Us Girls regular, was stunning in a red flannel one-piece with drop seat.

Most of the slumber took place during the comedy sketch. I do not say this in petty disappointment, even though I didn't get to dance with Marga Gomez. Both she and Monica Palacios are polished performers, and judging from the crowd's welcome, I'm not the only one smitten by their talent. But the sketch was too uncomfortably reminiscent of real junior high school slumber parties—a bunch of girls acting silly and laughing at their own jokes. ("The difference," said my friend Hannah, "is that they have microphones.") Even Palacios' big voice and Gomez' energy didn't keep the crowd on the floor from getting smaller, while the one at the bar increased. The high point was when the audience was invited onstage to show off their pjs, and the crowd livened up again.

Someone at ground level snapped pictures of the pajama-clad. She turned out to be the photographer for the production company. I asked her name and tried not to smile when she told me. "It's true," she said. "But I'm thinking of using just my initials. People always laugh when I tell them my name." She handed me her card, and sure enough, there it was: Helen Keller. The best humor of the evening was inadvertent.

The performers' dressing room—if you could call it a room—was a cramped wedge of space under the stage stairs. Gomez and Palacios were gracious after I barged in on them, stood like a hunchback under the sloping ceiling, and asked questions. Palacios was already looking forward to their next gig down

stage the minute she set foot on it. While women of various body types waltzed onstage in soft nightwear, Claudia intoned a rap, urging the audience to "think of sweating Chinese and Mexican workers making your clothes. Think about thousands of silkworms spinning the thread that will cover your body. Think about recycling." Like a bright green moth, the model next to her lifted her arms to display a kimono sewn from a cast-off silk curtain. While indulging us in a parade of beautiful clothing, Claudia threw us thoughts about body image, anorexia, the grind of the clothing industry, the politics of beauty, the "crimes of fashion." I felt better about my extra pounds and ratty three-year-old harem pants. But there was a practical side to all this. "Think," said Claudia, "of all the money you spend on clothes. And then come down and spend it at Crimes of Fashion."

As a finale, Claudia tried to involve the audience in chanting a homage to Stephen Biko. The hearts of most of the women present, no doubt, were in sympathy; but their heads were on other things. After a few rousing cheers of "Free Biko," the voices faded out and attention turned to gathering each other's phone numbers.

The music started up again. Feet shook the floorboards. Women sitting next to the wall grabbed partners and melted into the dancing crowd; abandoned yelps erupted in parts of the room. Rose slid the zipper on her bunting down a notch. "It's a good party," she said. "But these girls! They need to get loose. They would never make it in Brooklyn." She swung her teddy bear in the air and boogied off on padded feet.

Lesbians at Risk?

Friday Sept. 20, the Women's AIDS Network is sponsoring a forum about the risk of AIDS transmission in the lesbian community. This women-only forum will address topics such as sexual transmission, IV drug use and sharing needles, and risk for lesbians using gay male donors for insemination.

The forum is being held at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., and will begin at 7 p.m. Childcare is available. As this forum is also a benefit for the Women's AIDS Network, a donation will be accepted at the door, sliding scale \$5-\$25.

The Women's AIDS Network

has been in operation since 1983 and consists mainly of women working in the health and mental health professions, although the organization is open to all women interested in doing AIDS work.

The Women's AIDS Network was established to do outreach and education about women and AIDS as well as helping women to get access to existing AIDS services.

For more information about the forum or Women's AIDS Network contact Nancy Shaw at the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 864-4376.

Creator**Forward Passer**

"You're gonna get me in a lot of trouble, aren't you?" Vincent Spano asks Peter O'Toole in *Creator* after becoming his graduate assistant in a love-at-first-sight meeting. But it's okay, they're just good friends. Spano has the hots for Virginia Madsen and O'Toole still loves Lucy, his wife who died 30 years ago.

Neither case is hopeless. Madsen agrees to move in with Spano on a platonic basis and O'Toole is a biologist who saved a few of Lucy's cells and is trying to clone her in his garage lab. Along comes "19-year-old numphomaniac" Mariel Hemingway to supply O'Toole with ova for his experiment and try to get him to marry her. Meanwhile rival professor David Ogden Stiers, who plays by the book, only dirtier, is trying to get O'Toole and his craziness out to pasture.

Soulmates O'Toole and Spano talk a lot about true love and the

ideal woman. At first it seems like the obligatory filler between episodes of campus hijinks, but it turns out to be the *point* of *Creator*. This isn't *My Real Weird Science Project*, but a semi-old-fashioned romance in a college setting.

O'Toole will please his fans in a role with elements of every wacko he's ever played, even referring to his co-star as "Sancho" at one point. Spano, whose charm escaped me until now, is a revelation and one of the cutest men I've seen all year, on or off screen. His body's not perfect but as he says, "When it's true love it doesn't matter if the ass sags a little bit." Hemingway is given a bit more of the comic burden than she can carry, including flashing her breasts and pretending to be a lesbian to ward off Stiers.

A change of gears in the final half hour flirts with tragedy both literally and commercially, serving up more sentiment than I suspect most moviegoers will be able to stand. Some will see the shift as a sign of uncertain direction, but as an admirer of Ivan



Hold That Pucker! — Vincent Spano (l.) is our critic's latest fantasy, but he seems to prefer older men like Peter O'Toole—not to mention women—in Ivan Passer's romantic comedy, *Creator*.

Speak to Me . . .

by John Thompkins

I'm sitting in a darkened room full of strangers as an artfully constructed slice of someone else's life passes before my eyes at 24 frames-per-second. David Roche is talking to me about love. David Roche could of course talk to me about most anything.

In real as opposed to reel life David Roche confesses that he's managed to kick his addiction to obsessive, one-way romances, the very addiction that informed his stage play turned short film, *David Roche Talks To You About Love*, playing through Sept. 26 with *Buddies* at the Roxie.

"In my personal life I've managed to get away from the idea that I have to be infatuated with somebody in order to have a relationship with them that means anything . . . To me it's a real trap. I've had a relationship now for the last year that's satisfying to me and until last year I didn't know if I was really out of this trap of thinking unless you were really head over heels in love with somebody and needed them desperately, you weren't having something important with them. I had learned to value that very highly, that kind of heart-sick feeling. It's wonderful and it's a part of life, but it had gotten to take too large a position in my life."

As a gay man living in Toronto David Roche has suffered almost as much for his art as for his love life. Dreading the psychic trap of office work, David discovered the role of self-employed house cleaner could free him up to write about his life. Logically enough, his first one-man short play dealt with cleaning other people's houses.

"These were successful and I was encouraged to continue. I had had a difficult love affair that I wanted to use in my work."

David Roche's film (produced in collaboration with a long time friend, Canadian filmmaker Jeremy Podeswa) combined theater and film styles to good effect. Addressing his audience directly in an intimate and seemingly off-handed monologue, David's boyishly handsome face darts in and out of light and shadow in an apartment setting that is suffused with womb-like, red earth-tone colors. Using actual family pictures, David

delivers a fictional, slide-show history of his life in which his family loses a son but gains a useful household appliance in a pecuniary pedagogic arrangement with a kindly older pedastar.

The story of my origin is short and I've told it to you without embellishment or self-pity: I was sold into pedastatic bondage for a Maytag!

David Roche admits that one line has raised more eyebrows from audiences, critics, and film censors than any other passage in the film. David notes wryly how the Ontario Provincial censors distorted the meaning of his film.

"The story of my film is supposed to be, and I'm quoting more or less from what they've written, 'Artist discusses his pedastic love and then they've crossed out love and written life as an afterthought, which is a rather farfetched description about what this 22-minute film is all about. One joke and they hammered me over the head with it!'

Many of the things that happened to David Roche that prompted him to talk to us about love probably did not seem funny at the time they were happening to him. The saving grace in David's work for himself and us is his indefatigable sense of humor, humor that filters out most of the bitterness, leaving a residue of truth.

"A sense of humor to me has always gone much further than being funny. A sense of humor is a way of looking at the world that helps you cope with it, especially its harder aspects. You've taken an attitude towards what you've suffered, it hasn't just descended on you like a blanket."

David Roche recommends writing about bad love affairs, especially unrequited ones, as a way of getting through and over them. David himself wants to stretch his talents and write about other things for the stage and screen. He hopes one day to bring his one-man plays to San Francisco.

David Roche Talks To You About Love, winner of several film festival awards, plays through Sept. 26 as a companion picture with *Buddies*, Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.'s first feature movie about AIDS, at the Roxie Cinema.

Passer's last underappreciated film, *Cutter's Way*, I think *Creator*'s creator knew exactly what he was doing and did it very well. I followed every curve, laughing and crying all the way to the finish.

(Regency 3)

S. Warren

The Ninth Configuration**Endless Chatter**

The title of this film, produced and directed and written by *Exorcist* author William Peter Blatty, no doubt refers to the molecule structure of cruddy

movies. Or it could refer to the number of times under various titles that this film has been re-cut and rereleased? Whatever it means really doesn't matter much because the only way to sit through it is with a hefty dose of Thorazine.

The Army has leased a castle in the Northwest as an asylum for Vietnam soldiers who have seemingly gone crazy. The Army thinks some of them are just looking for escape fighting, and wants them checked out.

Enter glossy-eyed Stacy Keach, who was obviously on Quaaludes when he walked somnambulistically through this role as the Army psychiatrist who is crazier than his patients. (Ah, yes, the old cliché of mental hospital movies: who is crazier? the patients or the doctors.)

The insane yammering and ceaseless chatter occasionally produces some funny, profound remarks which ostensibly explains why there is a small coterie of critics who think this is a brilliant picture.

However, the acting is uniformly bad and the direction is as preachy and pretentious as the script. Originally 140 minutes long, the current version is 107 minutes, which might explain all the unexplainable events that just pop up suddenly and disappear.

Configure this one a loser. ■ (Galaxy) M. Lasky



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- **"What's Next?: After the Test"**
(coping with test results)

Tuesdays through October, 6 pm to 7:30 pm
at the Parsonage, 555-A Castro St. (bet. 18th & 19th)

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CALL 626-6637

This program funded by the San Francisco Dept. of Public Health

BAY AREA REPORTER

SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Rob Daoud

All-Around Sports Nut Wants To Beat the Deputies in Football

by Paul Trefzger

Thirty-year-old Rob Daoud was enthusiastic as he spoke of the first gay football practice of the '85-'86 season. "It was great.

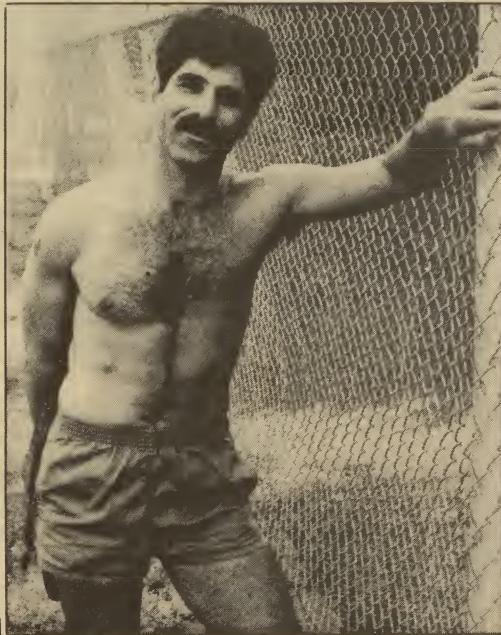
It looks like we have a much better crop this year. We have more people. We're playing together earlier and if this continues, I see no reason why we couldn't take the Sheriff's deputies by December or January. The game with them last year was the first one I went to. I mean, I wasn't able to make any of the practices, but I understand there weren't many anyway.

"I don't think the fact that they were bigger was why they won," Daoud continued. "It was because of our lack of experience playing together. Plays were designed in the huddle, we were smaller but faster, and didn't have a chance to prove it. Now we have bigger guys too. So between now and the time we play them, we'll be more together."

I mentioned that there was talk of forming four teams.

"I like the idea of a league. I hope it remains informal. I've been playing softball for nine years, and it's gone from fun to highly competitive. The soft-

ball's still fun, but it can be a bit stressfull, whereas Saturday (football practice) was so much fun. I was playing fullback, but I'd prefer wide receiver or defen-



Rob Daoud

(Photo: Rink)

sive end. Anyway, I'd hate for it to lose its informal charm."

I asked Daoud if he had been familiar with flag football.

injury."

I asked if he worked out.

"I work out at the Muscle System three times a week for one or two hours. I go through a com-

"You know, five years ago I wrote a letter to the B.A.R. about football and didn't get so much as a nibble."

—Rob Daoud

"I played flag football all through junior high school." He explained the differences from tackle. "Well, the rules vary among groups, but basically instead of forcing the ball carrier to the ground, you merely pull a flag from his belt and the play ends there. Blocking is just the same—just as rough. As soon as there's a fumble the play ends there, I believe. Another first down is earned after three forward passes are completed. There are fewer players; eight as opposed to 11. You don't kick for extra points. The field's shorter. Yeah, it was a lot of fun. Actually, I've played different forms of football since I was 12. God, has it been 18 years!?" Then Daoud paused.

"You know, five years ago I wrote a letter to B.A.R. about football and didn't get so much as a nibble. So I was excited when there was a team last year, and then when I saw that Ron (Herzog) was getting it together again this year . . ."

I asked him about his softball career.

"I played for The Producers. It was the team's first year and we finished 11 (wins) and four (losses). Our sponsor was Bob Gulovich, a fine man. He's the best sponsor I've had in my years of baseball."

I asked Rob how he personally had done.

"I really didn't have a good year this year, or as good as some I've had, because of a shoulder

added, "You run, right?"

"No. I do international folk dancing. In fact, I teach it on Tuesday nights. I have been for a year and a half." I asked, "From which areas?"

"Different countries. All over Europe," he said. "My dad had taught it for about 35 years, and I just got into it."

When he came to the city, Daoud joined the Berkeley Folk Dancers.

"That was nine years ago when I first came here from Monterey to study broadcast communications at San Francisco State. I had difficulty finding work in that field, so I went to City College for computer programming. Now, I'm a systems analyst for the phone company."

Then the subject returned to dancing.

"I formed my own gay group. It's terrific. It was a struggle for the first year, but it's really picked up since our recent move to the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in Collingwood Park. It's a nicer space than where we were located before." I said, "That leaves you one free week night."

"On Thursday I teach square dancing at the 2140 Market. The group is Skip Barrett and the Bay City Ramblers. There're about 60 in the group and two classes a night; 7 to 8:15 and 8:15 to 9:30. Skip has had square dancing in the city for five years. He was a founder, and since then it's blossomed into four clubs," Rob continued.

"On Sunday, or days with no sports, I like riding my bicycle. I'll start in Golden Gate Park and wind up in Sausalito or the Embarcadero—anywhere. Oh, and I ski in the winter—twice, if I'm lucky. In college I liked playing badminton."

Considering his multi-sports background, I asked Daoud if he had competed in the '82 Gay Games.

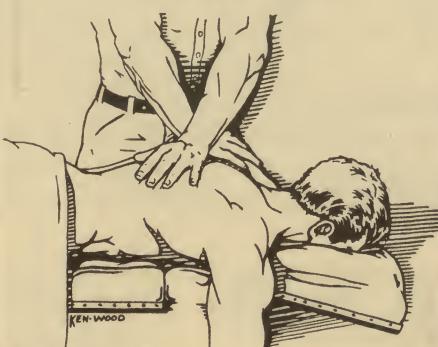
"No, I didn't. I just consider myself average."



Rob Daoud goes after the quarterback at football practice
(Photo: Rink)

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The Hangover Harlots

The Law and You —

California law and the laws of most states stipulate that the person who must give authorization for the burial or cremation of a deceased person is the next of kin. For example: Legally married spouse or divorced spouse with minor children, adult children, father or mother if living, if not, then brothers or sisters over 21 or other living relatives in line such as second or third cousins, etc.

The big problem readily recognized by the gay community is that at the time of their death their companion and gay families may be totally ignored and left completely out of the decision making process. Often, the distant family will order the deceased body to be immediately shipped away to a cold, unfriendly community for burial in a cemetery plot. This action may be totally against the desires or wishes of the person who has died and ignores the feelings of those who really care.

The solution? Simple! Every person who is in command of his or her life can also take command of their funeral rites and the ultimate disposition of their body.

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Cable Car Award Sports Nominees Being Accepted

For the next month the 1986 Cable Car Award Sports Committee will be accepting nominations for individuals in various sports.

Currently, the categories represented are: tennis, pool, bowling, and softball. Any person, male or female, who you think has contributed to their sport, should be considered. This year track and swimming have been added to the list of Outstanding Sportsman and Sports-woman.

The other sports category is Outstanding Contribution to Athletics. This category is for those persons who have given an unusual amount of time and effort to promote their sport or sports. Last year more than 20 people's names appeared on the

list, which was pared to five of the best San Francisco has to offer.

Please mail your nominations to: Cable Car Awards Inc., c/o Sports Committee, P.O. Box 1171, San Francisco, CA, 94101.

'Now all of you stop laughing.'

All nominations must be in no later than Oct. 25. Please send a short letter explaining why this person deserves to be nominated. The final decision will be that of the sports committee and the Cable Car Award Board of Directors. This year the Cable Car Awards and Show will be

held Saturday, Feb. 15, 1986 at Herbst Theater.

The 1985 Gay Softball League banquet is set for Friday, Sept. 27 at the get this, Slavonic Cultural Center, 60 Onandaga, in San Francisco. It is located at Alameda Blvd. and Onandaga.

For those of you who need a ride, I'm sure the GSL board will be happy to pick you up because they selected this famous landmark. Now all of you stop laughing. You said the same thing about the California Club when it was first suggested.

The winter softball season has been set for an October start-up, and exact dates will be forthcoming.

Next week I'll do a profile on the sponsors from Trax, Festus, and Amelia's.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation presents

AIDS UPDATE 85

A Series of Free Community Forums

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED

Sex in the Age of AIDS EROTICIZING SAFE SEX

An updated version of a provocative forum from last fall's series focuses on learning how to thoroughly enjoy Safe Sex.

Learn how to make condoms a turn-on as well as protection from the AIDS virus. Find out how to buy and use condoms successfully.

Learn how sex in the age of AIDS can be even more fulfilling, satisfying and exciting than it was in the past!

When: Thursday, September 26, 7 PM
Where: Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality
 1523 Franklin Street (between Bush and Pine)

SPACE IS LIMITED. FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 928-1133

Another Message from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation
 333 Valencia Street, San Francisco 94103

Call To Arms



A little caring goes a long way to reduce the feelings of rejection and isolation that can accompany an AIDS diagnosis.

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week to provide emotional and practical support for people with AIDS. Call today for more information.

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JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements
 (The League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 13 of 15 - as of 09/08/85))		2. Gutter Girls	36 1/2	23 1/2
1. Vagabond	32 1/2	19 1/2	3. 5 Big Balls	35 25
2. Gone With The Pins	31 1/2	20 1/2	4. Team 4	32 28
3. Play With It, Ltd.	30	22	5. Mitzie's Men	30 30
4. The Crips	29	23	6. The Marvellettes	29 1/2 30 1/2
5. Debos Triangle	26 1/2	25 1/2	7. Deadwoods	27 33
6. Alley Cats	24 1/2	27 1/2	8. "Alley Lanes"	27 33
7. Strange Interlude	24	28	9. Alley Oops!	23 37
8. DMJ 2	22	30	10. Hunker Roos	21 39
9. Oh, Well!	21	31		
10. Cocktails	19	33		

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 15 of 17 - as of 09/04/85))

1. Play With It, Ltd.	45	15
2. High Gear	44 1/2	15 1/2
3. Taco Tycoons	37	23
4. Stud City	34 1/2	25 1/2
5. Team #1	34	26
6. Brunswick Beauties	34	26
7. Alley-Oops	33	23
8. Kok Pit Punchers	30	30
9. Lucille's Balls	30	30
10. Pilsner Vultures	29	31
11. Very Cruisers	26 1/2	33 1/2
12. Fat-Al Kids	26	34
13. Pink Terminators	26	34
14. Late Nite Rollers	21	39
15. White Swallow	20	36
16. Sticky Buns	17 1/2	42 1/2
17. Team #12	0	0
18. Team #18	0	0

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 13 of 16 - as of 08/26/85))

1. Play With It, Please	37	15
2. Agency Rent-A-Car	37	15
3. Vagabond	31 1/2	20 1/2
4. Foot Plumbing	31 1/2	20 1/2
5. What's My Lane?	31 1/2	20 1/2
6. Below Meanies	29 1/2	22 1/2
7. Pin Pals	27 1/2	24 1/2
8. Bow-K	25 1/2	26 1/2
9. Damaged Goods	22 1/2	29 1/2
10. Kim's Kuities	21	31
11. Jason's Brats	21	31
12. S.F. Int'l Cheese Import	17 1/2	34 1/2
13. Tina's Weenies	17 1/2	34 1/2
14. The Flintstones	13 1/2	38 1/2

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 14 of 16 - as of 09/05/85))

1. Pendulum #2	34 1/2	21 1/2
2. Teddy Bears	34	22
3. Pendulum #1	32	24
4. Hunks	31	25
5. Vagabond	27	29
6. The Twin Peaks '9er's	26 1/2	29 1/2
7. Old Rick's	25	31
8. On The Way Up	24	32
9. Gangway	23	33
10. P.S.—Maybe This Time	23	33

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

SFPA Standings

Division I

DeLuxe D.U.C.K.S.	45-19	.703	Eagle Creek Chaos	35-29	.546
Festus Farmhands	54-26	.675	Bear Hugs	40-40	.500
Chaps Spurs	31-17	.645	Maud's Squad	23-25	.479
Maud's	38-26	.593	Watering Hole Bisons	29-35	.453
Bear Bottoms	46-34	.575	Park Bowl Players	28-36	.437
Park Bowl Phantases	44-36	.550	Pilsner Speniscidae	33-47	.412
Transfer Transients	27-37	.421	Ltd	25-39	.390
Alamo Square A.S.S. #2	33-47	.412	Transfer Stops		
Watering Hole Mystery	30-50	.375	TOP TEN		
S.F. Eagle Eagles	21-43	.328	1 Rick Mariani	10-0	1.000
Pilsner Doughboys	23-57	.287	2 Dave Timko	8-0	1.000

Division II

DeLuxe H.U.N.T.E.R.S.	41-23	.666	4 Lisa Duncan	10-1	.909
Traveler's C.Z.E.C.H.S.	39-25	.609	5 Barbara Steel	10-1	.909
S.F. Eagle Outlaws	27-21	.562	6 D. J.	15-3	.833
			7 Rick Bradford	16-4	.800

Winter Leagues Begin

The Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues have just finished their 41st season at Park Bowl.

Yes, gay bowling is alive, well, and growing at Park Bowl, and the 1985-86 Winter season is poised to burst forth on the San Francisco bowling scene. For those of you who are mulling over the pros and cons of competing on the lanes this coming season, here are a few particulars on which to base your decision.

Tavern Guild Monday League: starts Sept. 30, pre-season meeting on 2nd floor of Park Bowl at 7:30 p.m., begin bowling at 9 p.m., five-person teams, fee to be determined.

Tavern Guild Thursday League: starts Oct. 3, pre-season meeting on 2nd floor of Park Bowl at 8 p.m., begin bowling at 9 p.m., four-person teams, fee to be determined.

Tavern Guild Wednesday League: starts Oct. 9, pre-season meeting on 2nd floor of Park Bowl at 7:30 p.m., begin bowling

at 8:30 p.m., five-person teams, fee to be determined.

In order to offer every caliber of bowler a more-or-less equal chance to share in the prize money awarded at the end of the season, all three leagues will continue the 80 percent handicap. Also, in order to provide league balance, mixed teams are encouraged.

While all three Tavern Guild Leagues have a full complement of teams (22), some teams still need an additional bowler or two. If you wish to join an existing team, contact Mal Garcia at 752-2366 and he will match you with a sure winner.

However, if you want to participate in one (or more) of the above bowling leagues and have been unable to contact Mal Garcia, simply show up at the appropriate pre-season meeting(s) and raise your hand when the question is put forth, "is there anyone present who wants to join a team?"

BAY AREA REPORTER

B.A.R. BAZAAR



MR. MARCUS

Folsom II: Attack of The Street Faire

For the second year in a row, South of Market will experience its own street fair with a dynamic pastiche of entertainment, music, dancing, theater, arts, crafts, food, custom sets, and the best of Folsom's dealers to keep you in the right mood as we enter the Fall Equinox. Sponsored by Bud Light and Soho Natural Soda, this year's event is a benefit for the SF AIDS Fund and the Women's Building, and the line up of entertainers includes Viola Wells, JO-LO, Magda Dioni, and Pearl Hart, to name only a few. Besides the two stages, a giant truck will also feature entertainment. The winners of every contest held South of Market since last year will appear, including all the Bare Chest Contest winners, the Leather Daddy, Daddy's Boy, Intl. Mr. Leather, and the Emperor and Empress de Motorcycling.

The party runs from 1100 to Dusk, and the entire thing will be broadcast "live" from the street by KUSF-FM (90.3) so bring your Walkman and listen to yourself on the air.

For months, co-chairs Michael Valerio and Kathleen Connell have been putting this affair together, and it all falls into place this Sunday, Sept. 22. Folsom Street will be closed off from 7th to 11th Streets, but there will be adequate parking throughout the area. Busloads of people are coming from Los Angeles, San Diego, and Long Beach and from throughout the Bay Area. If you want to have a good time out in the open, Folsom Style, this is your best bet. Men and women into leather and all their friends will be there, so don't miss out.

There's so much going on this weekend, you'll need lots of stamina, so take all your vitamins and get some rest. The Inter-Club Fund is hosting a \$3 beer bust (no food) at the SF-Eagle that same day as a benefit for its charitable program, while dedicated biker types will be at the Warlocks M/C weekend run. Saturday night, the GGBA presents its annual big chic soiree, 22 On The Red, and *Night Sweat* plays its final performance at Theatre Rhinoceros. Terry Monahan, the famed body-builder photographer, celebrates his 5th Anniversary on Twin Peaks with lots and lots of muscle. Friday, Esta Noche celebrates its 6th Anniversary with door prizes and lots of champagne. Jerry Semas hosts his 4th Annual Hollywood Party at his 17th St. digs — you're supposed to come as your favorite movie star. Also on Sunday, the Art Deco Society of California invites you to an exhibition of the art of Stephan from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Say hi to Bo Peep when you attend the show at Company, Nob Hill's only gay bar!

Last Saturday afternoon (Sept. 15) another half-dozen bikers endured the rigors of a bike christening in the patio of the SF-Eagle. Manager

Terry Thompson again unsuccessfully tried to stay dry during the ceremony, but with champagne, beer, and a water hose to foil his plans it was a foregone conclusion that staying dry at a bike christening is an impossibility. Noted one observer, "This is a Latex Queen affair if ever there was one." The chaotic scene was memorable and drenching even for those unsuspecting souls who just happened to wander in on the action. The christenees got themselves

Independence. I tell you, it's enough to make you cry sometimes trying to keep up with all the madness in this town — but most of it is for a good cause. Even the new Leather Daddy's Boy, Steve Kajikawa, looked a little blue around the gills Sunday after his winning the title the week before.

★ ★ ★

The SF-Eagle does another good turn for the causes for AIDS as the world's only sex



Best gams at the Castro Street Fair award goes to this unlikely cowgirl
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

and their bikes drenched, good wishes from the assembled fans, and their bikes' names posted on the wall plaque.

Sunday, the 49ers awakened from their slumber and put on another thrilling exhibition against Atlanta at the 'Stick and lots and lots of gay men and women were on hand for the slaughter of the Falcons. All around town, TV sets were turned on full blast, and everyone turned jock for another day.

All this while the community saw at last the dedication of Harvey Milk Plaza on Castro and Market while thousands jammed the area for the annual Castro Street Fair and while the American Indians were stomping it up in Civic Center.

With the opening of the Opera and the Symphony and all the gala events in conjunction, there was heavy gay representation in all areas, and the salsa was sizzling at the Esta Noche on Saturday night celebrating Mexican

awards are taken out of the moth balls for another presentation. The Golden Dildeaux Awards have been set for Thursday, Nov. 14, with David Stoll and Mark Abramson co-chairing the event. All the goody and baddy things you've done sexually in the past few years will be recognized in all areas of sexuality (somewhat modified this year). In keeping with tradition, Randy Johnson will co-MC with the dashing Dick Ferris, manager of Gold's Gym.

While you're looking ahead, keep in mind that Intl. Mr. Leather Patrick Toner will be throwing his "Let's Go Navy" party at the Powerhouse Thursday, Oct. 17. It's a benefit for Rita Rockett's dinners for patients at Ward 5-B. The evening will import Allen Lozito from New York, who is one of the best comedians on the East Coast, and will feature a bevy of body-builders in an exhibition. Don't miss this one either!

(Continued on next page)

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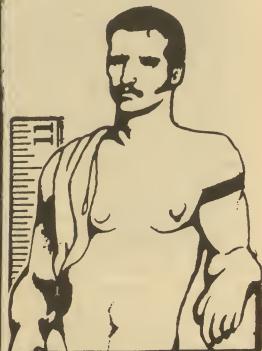
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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

I thought I told you all to stay away from the Windmill area out in Golden Gate Park! Since I last mentioned it, the bush queens have been out there in force absolutely driving the Weenie Patrol out of their minds. The one police officer, a silver-haired dude with mirror glasses has obtained a walkie-talkie, and in an effort to curb the sexual activity out there has resorted to issuing tickets for: Parking on the Grass!

Meanwhile, at the tearoom on Highway 280 South, the San Mateo Sheriffs are checking the can out every 15 minutes at night, so if you're a teamroom commando or a bush queen, be advised they're out to get you, so exercise caution — better yet — stay away!

One of South of Market's most desirable bartenders recently made a porno flick, which in itself is admirable — after all, not everyone is afforded that opportunity, hey? Anyway, I found out it is not a comedy, because said new porn star is not amused at the ribbing he gets for making the movie. Come on, it's all camp, dear, camp.

We are now at the Supermen Contest at the Hollywood Palladium in Hollywood, an annual beauty pageant sponsored by Data Boy. It was sold out as some 51 contestants paraded in front of the judges and one of them was a former San Franciscan who didn't even place in the top 16. The judges included Chas Nelson Reiley and Carol Cook with Kenny Sacha McCring. The winner, Michael Parks, sponsored by Studio One (no pictures yet), got a new 1985 Pontiac for his efforts. The former San Franciscan won \$100 for being "the most photogenic" contestant!

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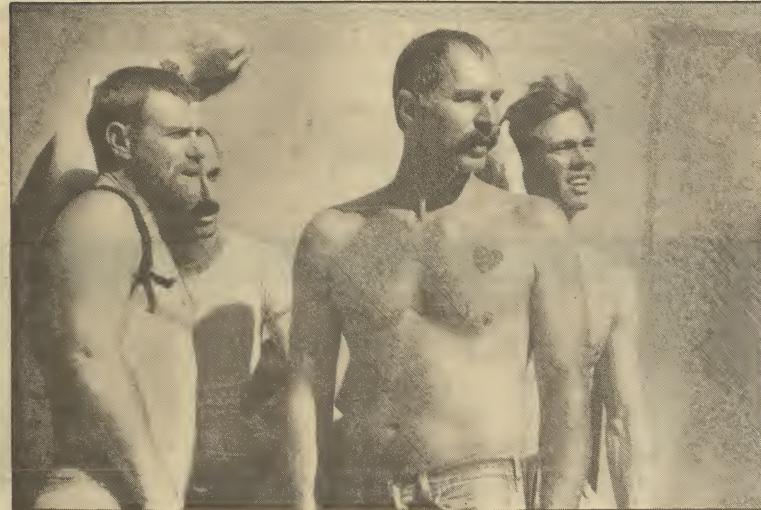
Speaking of LA, *Compass* Mag columnist Suzy Parker is headed for Hawaii with photographer John Krause as her, ahem, escort. Suzy confided that if John doesn't "put out" this time he may have to swim back!

My sources close to the producers say to be sure and watch episode #6 of the new season's *Dynasty*, which will be a two-hour show and besides introducing the Colbys for the spin-off series, it will be very juicy!

Well, the CMC Carnival is coming Nov. 10, and the dudes are jockeying for position already. The first known contestant is Ernie Viola, the handsome bartender at the SF-Eagle, and his fans are clamoring with fists full of dollars already! Applications are available from last year's Mr. Carnival, David Stoll at the Eagle, if you want to run. And speaking of the carnival, there will not be a ferris wheel, after all. And finally, the man who won the first Mr. Carnival and now lives in L.A., will make an appearance this year — maybe some of you remember him? He was Big Jimmy, and I do mean Big. Jimmy is a drag entertainer in Hollywood these days, but he will be here for the carnival!

Guess what? A new club for tit men. It's called Edenite and for \$15 annually your membership includes a listing in their club directory with a photo you furnish and which includes mail forwarding. They also publish the *Tit Journals* magazine, and they're recruiting in California. If you're interested in getting your tits twisted, write to Edenite, P.O. Box 515, South Beloit, Illinois, 61080. They say titplay is fun and safe and you're all invited to join up.

There's an Uncut J/O party



Richard Locke (r.) and friends at the Castro Street Fair

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

being held on Capp Street Sunday, Sept. 29 (Full Moon night), and you're all invited to BYOB and accoutrements. Call Jerry at 552-1425 for location and particulars.

Happy birthday to Patrick Toner, celebrating his 23rd tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 20.

Mark your calendars for the 12th Annual Date at Minsky's coming on Oct. 13 (Sunday) at the Victoria Theatre, brought to you by the GDI's. Tickets are \$10 with a 6 p.m. curtain.

★ ★ ★

Hey, it's over for this week. Hope to see you all at the Folsom Street Fair Sunday. Until next time, remember: Be touchable and kissable!

Mister Marcus



Daddy's Boy 1985 Steve Kajikawa

(Photo: Marcus)

Bazaar Calendar

Friday 9/20: Warlock's 25th Annual Run, Lake San Antonio, through Sun. 9/22, \$60 includes everything, last MC run of the season.

Interchain Club Open Meeting, SF Eagle, 8:30 to 10 p.m. Interchain is a fraternal leather club.

Buns Contest, Casa Loma, 10 p.m., hosts Dolly Levi and Bruce Harrelson, cash prizes.

Saturday 9/21: Pre-ACIE Coronation Party, Kimo's, 4 to 6 p.m., bus leaves for Oakland 6 p.m. sharp, \$20 includes bus, ball tickets, and return.

Four Seasons Coronation '85, Alameda Court, Oakland Convention Center (550 Tenth), doors open 6 p.m., show 7 p.m., \$12 adv., \$15 door.

Sunday 9/22: Attack of the Street Fair, Folsom St. Fair,

ICF Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6 includes beer, wine, pop, and food.

Stephan, an exhibition of his works, Company (1319 Calif. at Leavenworth), 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., hosts Art Deco Society, Douglas Richardson and George Seefeld, period dress encouraged.

After Fair Affaire, Chaps, 6 p.m.

Tuesday 9/24: Something For Everyone, Casa Loma, 8 p.m., fashion show, entertainment benefit for Guide Dogs for the Blind, \$1. Hostess Dolly Levi, buffet.

Wednesday 9/25: Cycle Runner's Run Show Showing, Village, 8 p.m., includes *Dynasty* season opener.

Dynasty Season Opener, 9 p.m., at your favorite pub.

Compiled by Karl Stewart

SWEET LIPS SEZ .

Hot Bodies

DICK WALTERS

your roommate Mickey is recovering so well from his surgery . . . and I am sure it is your great cooking that is doing it, right John?

Starting on Thursday, the 3rd of October, you will be able to purchase your California lottery tickets at the popular Giraffe bar on Polk Street . . . yes, Carl and Larry have secured the rights to sell the lottery tickets . . . incidentally, a Happy Belated Birthday greeting to you, Larry, as of last Thursday. Hi Donna Mae, loved your new do.

The White Swallow's annual Octoberfest is again coming on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of October, and if it is anything like years past it will be a blast, with drawings hourly and some really great German foods . . . so don't miss this one, especially when you get to see Mike Dooley in lederhosen . . . right, Aunt Martha?

The one and only Colonel Clinique is back on the planks at the Cinch on Polk Street, and doing a great job as usual . . . hope to see you soon, honey.

Straight from Dolly Dale's mouth at the Polk Gulch Saloon . . . yes, it is true his boss Jessie is again looking for a husband because he and Flame have split, as in goodbye for good . . . so give Jesse a call if you are interested. No, you do not have to be a drag queen.

Nice of you to drop in and say hello to an old friend, namely me, Wayne Friday of the New Bell Saloon . . . and am glad to hear

Aloha . . . people . . . Kimo's anniversary party is Thursday and Friday the 26th and 27th of this month, and you'll get to see Kimo on stage doing his flaming numbers with lots of guest stars . . . and Hawaiian Pu Pu's (that's glorious island delicacies) so don't miss this fun two-night event because even Hilo Lips will be there.

Welcome home Scott Raffa from your brief Ft. Lauderdale vacation . . . I for one missed your charming smile and wit.

Next Sunday Robert Michael's Productions is taking three bus loads of friends to Santa Cruz for a day's outing and to see a Chuck Largent Revue that afternoon. . . a very nice gesture on your part, Bob, but I guess my invitation blew off the porch, again!

The Castro Street Fair was a real blast last Sunday, and of course the one and only Board of Supervisors president, John Molinari, was there for the dedication of the Harvey Milk Plaza . . . you can always depend on John Molinari to help the gay community . . . and the Castro Street Fair is getting bigger every year. The weather was just great for this one because you got to see some hot bodies.

COURTLY CHATTER

Potpourri



REMY

Summer draws to a close this Saturday, the 21st, and what better way to end it with events that are happening 250 miles apart from each other. The first one is the Warlocks Motorcycle Club's 25th Anniversary Weekend Run, "On Silver Wings," which is being held at Lake San Antonio in the Monterey State Park. This is the last official weekend run for the season and promises to be, as usual, packed with fun. The Warlocks are one of the oldest organized motorcycle clubs in the city.

It is one of the few clubs that require its active members to have a motorcycle. Associates, honoraries, and the women's auxiliary are also an integral part to the functioning of the organization. Twenty-five years as a club, through some of the most colorful and momentous times for this generation, has certainly given this club the ability to change with the times.

As in any type of fraternal group, there are those individuals whose contributions to that group are continuous. Through the peaks and valleys, these are the people who can be depended upon to pull the group together. Although my involvement with the South-of-Market may be considered novitiate, names like Don Penniman, Jim Connors, Wat Abbott, Frank Rauch, Charlie Minehart, and Allen Dale, just to name a few, were and are considered the standard bearers of this club.

Please! Don't take me wrong. All of the current and past members of this club have been or are just as hardworking and dedicated to the success of their club. When I got into the club scene, there were two clubs that really took me under their wings. The Barbary Coasters, of which I'm a member, and the Warlocks. When it comes to allegiances, it's about equal, with the Cycle Runners and GDI's a close second.

It was on the 1983 Warlock Run that I decided to do a little bovine rustling — "the thinning of the herd," at which I received the club's klutz of the year award. Others may know it as my cow-killing adventure. Nonetheless,



Sylvester and his lover at the Castro Street Fair (Photo: Rink)

I've always had a special kinship to the Warlocks, and wish them success on their Silver Jubilee.

The other event is the second annual Folsom Street Fair, "Attack of the Street Fair," being held Sunday the 22nd. Last year, Megahood 1984 was a huge success, and judging from all indications, this year's event is going to be just as successful. This is a "must do" affair, for you'll kick yourself for not attending. Mr. Financial District 1985, Michael Vallerio, along with his friends, have been working feverishly for months to put this event together. So get-on-down and check it out!

COWBOY/COWGIRL RESULTS

Saturday, Sept. 7, was the voting for Cowboy and Cowgirl of San Francisco for 1985/86. Contestants for Cowboy were Randy B. Good and Karl Williams, with Loretta and Big "D"

vying for the Cowgirl title. Selection was a three-part process: 50% was based upon raffle ticket sales, 25% on public voting during the day at Kim's, and 25% on each contestant's country/western presentation. Raffle ticket sales were: Randy, \$600; Karl, \$200; Loretta, \$473; and Big "D" \$476.

The evening affair was held at the Stallion's lower mezzanine room, and was 1984/85 Cowgirl Michele's stepping aside. M/C's were Empress XIV Ginger and former Cowboy of California, Bruce. The winners and new Cowboy and Cowgirl are: Randy B. Good and Big "D."

The entire contest and affair raised \$1,850 for the Emperor and Empress's travel fund. Everyone there had a great time, and congratulations to the winners and participants in this year's contest.

(Continued on next page)



Kevin (r.) just out of the Dunk-A-Hunk water tank at the Castro Street Fair

(Photo: Rink)

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Chatter

(Continued from previous page)

GRAND DUKE & DUCHESS INVESTITURE

Newly elected Grand Duke Tony Trevizo and Grand Duchess Deena Jones have announced their plans for their Royal Wedding and Investiture of their household, court, and cabinet. It's to be held Saturday, Oct. 5, in the Art Deco Ballroom of the San Francisco Furniture Mart. Tickets are \$10 in advance and will be available at the Village and Casa Loma, or \$12 at the door. 25% of all net proceeds for the event will be donated to the Godfather Service Fund. As a wedding gift, Billy Gordon will make a special appearance, courtesy of West Graphics. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the proceedings starting at 8 p.m.

After the investiture, the Royal Couple will receive well-wishers at two wedding receptions. The first one will be at the Village and the second at the Casa Loma. Plan to attend, because Tony and Deena are pulling out the stops to give you a fun time.

The weekend prior to their wedding/investiture, they will host three victory parties. Friday the 27th will find them at the Village, Saturday the 28th at the Casa Loma, and Sunday afternoon the 29th at a tea dance at Amelia's. Watch for details for all of these coming events in your local pub.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
Scott Taylor — Sept. 27-28: 10PM

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BACKING UP—JUST A WEE BIT

As is the plight of any columnist, we sometimes inadvertently leave out some fact or other when reporting on specific topics. It only shows that we are human and as such, prone to mistake. Trust me. I never intend to slight anyone person or organization. However, it's bound to happen. So to back track and "CMA," the following are some facts/points left out of some of my previous columns.

Issue 34: Reporting on the Constantines "Orient Express" run. In their Rider Events, their Sweepstakes winner was Yoshi Masuda, Independent.

Issue 36: Reporting on the Cycle Runners "Kansas — Land of Aaaaaahs" run. As mentioned in Bill Woods letter in Issue 37, my apologies to Ms. Piggie and Wanda June, both of whom oversaw the food preparation and are members of the Cheaters M/C. Both individuals continuously contribute their time and energy to their clubs and community. Also, each in their own style is an excellent entertainer and fun to be around.

I appreciate the fact that these omissions were brought to my attention, and I encourage the continued practice. We strive to be perfect, many times missing the mark. However, we try and try again. Again, my apologies!

JOT THESE DOWN

The Emperor and Empress,



49er faithful at the Bear while the Castro Street Fair rages outside

(Photo: Rink)

Ken Wright and Sissy Spacek have announced the date and theme of their coronation ball. The date is Feb. 22 at the Galleria, and the theme is "Space Station — Nashville." The mother ship will be landing in three locals: the Future, Asia, and Nashville. Further details as to times, ticket prices, etc., will be forthcoming over the next few months.

Also, the election of the new Emperor and Empress will be held later than usual since the date of the coronation has been moved forward. For those planning to run for those titles, the campaign will be four weeks long. The election will be held one week prior to the ball. We're looking at mid-January as the starting date of the campaign. Watch for details.

Closet Ball 1986 is planned for May 10, 1986 at the Civic Auditorium. This being the Most Outrageous Coming Out Party, it is probably the largest event of its kind. Keep this date open, so you won't miss out.

TAVERN GUILD PICNIC

Last Sunday was the 21st Annual Tavern Guild Picnic which was held at Hidden Valley Ranch in Fremont. Approximately 500 people from all over the Bay Area busied themselves with the various activities the committee had planned.

There was gaming, volleyball, horseshoes, drag race, dancing, swimming, a dunk tank, or just lying around taking in the rays and watching the 49er football game. I rode over on a bus that Jonna Harlan and Susan Fahey from Amelia's had organized.

I appreciate the fact that the omissions were brought to my attention, and I encourage the continued practice.

Also, the annual Mr. and Miss Tavern Guild Contest was also in full swing. The Mr. TG contestants were: Ernie Smith and Rosa. Congratulations to the winners and to Empress Sissy and her court for putting on the contest. I really had a great time, and thanks to the gang from Amelia's and the Tavern Guild for a great picnic.

UP & COMING

The Cycle Runners M/C is having a Southern/500 during the weekend of Oct. 5 and 6. There are only 30 spaces available (could be increased, if they know real soon). It departs Saturday at 9:30 a.m. from the Watering Hole, proceeding down the coast to Morro Bay. A tour of

Hearst Castle is planned for Sunday morning, then the group returns to S.F. The price is \$30, which covers lunch, night's lodging, and the Hearst tour. Registration closes Sept. 23, so book now. For more information call Quentin at 621-3413 (if you get the machine, listen to the tape) or Frank Naccarato at 431-4837 or 552-3733. If you remember the Constantines Northern/500, you'll not want to miss this one!

Grand Duchess Deena Jones is appearing in an all-live show "Lady Sings the Blues," Monday, Sept. 23 at the Mint on Market Street. The dinner show starts at 8 p.m. Deena has a fabulous voice and will knock your socks off with her show. For more details call the Mint at 626-4726.

The Inter-Club Fund is hosting a beer bash at the S.F. Eagle Patio on Sunday the 22nd. It starts at 3 p.m. Contact any member of the ICF for details.

Kimo's on Polk Street is having its 8th Anniversary Sept. 26 and 27. As is the tradition of Kimo's, its anniversary parties are not to be missed. There will be a Polynesian show both nights, along with other surprises. Stop in and wish them well!

Well, that's it for now — Concord is calling — ALOHA all, especially CL!

Remy



Dads at the Castro Street Fair

(Photo: Rink)

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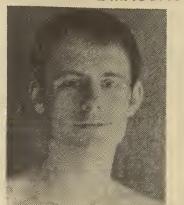
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